



“The Herald” Newsletter

St. Peter’s Evangelical Lutheran Church

Worship. Learn. Gather. Serve.

December 2018



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“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.” Titus 2:11

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Christmas Eve Worship
Family Services of Holy Communion
at 3:00 & 5:00 p.m.

Children’s Christmas Story as Sermon

Traditional Services
of Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.
Pastor Sarah Teichmann preaches at 7:30 p.m.
Pastor Craig Ross preaches at 10:00 p.m.



Darkest Night Service

Join us for a healing service on Sunday evening, December 16th at 6:00 p.m. for those who struggle with grief during the Christmas holiday season. Surrounded by a world, which announces joy at every turn, and happiness with each breath, we will pause this night to offer God our struggles, which seem even more painful during this season of festivity. The hymns, lessons, prayers and readings of the service serve as a reminder that the joy of Christmas is intimately linked with the suffering of the Lenten Cross, and given meaning by the Easter Resurrection. A candle lighting liturgy provides visible focus of our grief and our hope. Anointing with oil will be offered as a healing rite. Come and share a respite from the world’s happiness, in order to embrace your sense of loss, and to hear again God’s promises of renewal and healing.

Inside This Issue . . .

- Worship Schedule – 2**
- Constitution Update - 3**
- Christmas & Advent - 5**
- Adult Christian Ed. - 6**
- Committees – 7**
- Worship & Music – 11**
- Pastoral Letters – 12**
- Director of Music - 15**
- Youth Ministries – 16**
- St. Peter’s Preschool – 16**
- St. Peter’s Kids – 17**
- Groups & Events – 18**
- Schedules and Assignments–19**
- Mission/Vision Statement - 22**
- Looking Ahead/Calendar – 23**

December Worship Schedule



Sunday, December 2: Advent 1

New Day Service of Holy Communion at 10:45 a.m.

-- *Pastor Craig preaches*

Traditional Services of Holy Communion at 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

--*Pastor Sarah preaches*

Wednesday, December 5: Advent 1 Mid-week Service

Brief Service of Holy Communion at 7:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

--*Pastor Craig preaches*

Sunday, December 9: Advent 2

New Day Service of the Word at 10:45 a.m., with Sacrament of Holy Baptism

--*Sister Dottie preaches*

Traditional Service of the Word at 8:00 a.m., Holy Communion at 10:45 a.m.

--*Pastor Sarah preaches*

Wednesday, December 12: Advent 2 Mid-week Service

Brief Service of Holy Communion at 7:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

--*Vicar Nancy preaches*

Sunday, December 16: Advent 3

New Day Service of Holy Communion at 10:45 a.m.

-- *Pastor Craig preaches*

Traditional Service of Holy Communion at 8:00 a.m., Service of the Word at 10:45 a.m. with Sacrament of Holy Baptism

--*Vicar Nancy preaches*

Sunday, December 16: Darkest Night Service

Service of Healing and Remembrance at 6:00 p.m.

-- *Pastor Craig & Vicar Nancy lead*

-- Anointing with Oil offered and Remembrance Candle Lighting Rite

Wednesday, December 19: Advent 3 Mid-week Service

Brief Service of Holy Communion at 7:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

--*Pastor Sarah preaches*

Thursday, December 20: Sages Christmas Service

Pew Communion Service of Holy Communion at 11:00 a.m.

(The service is open to the public)

--*Pastor Craig preaches*

Sunday, December 23: Advent 4

New Day Service of the Word at 10:45 a.m., with Sacrament of Holy Baptism

--*Pastor Sarah preaches*

Traditional Service of the Word at 8:00 a.m., Holy Communion at 10:45 a.m.

--*Vicar Nancy preaches*

Monday, December 24: Christmas Eve

Family Services of Holy Communion at 3:00 & 5:00 p.m.

--*Children's Christmas Story as Sermon*

Traditional Service of Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m.

--*Pastor Sarah preaches*

Traditional Service of Holy Communion at 10:00 p.m.

--*Pastor Ross preaches*

Sunday, December 30: Christmas 1

Unified Service of Lessons and Carols at 9:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary for both New Day and

Traditional worshipping communities.

--*Sister Dottie Leads*

Constitution Update

If you attended our Annual Congregational Meeting on November 11th, you might be asking yourself “what just happened?” regarding some of the votes we took relating to our church constitution and bylaws. Maybe even if you didn’t attend, you have heard friends talking about it. In the interest of total transparency, we want to try to clear up some of the confusion. You may find the “Constitution Update,” a comprehensive explanation prepared by our parliamentarian, Leslie McCarthy, along with her email address for follow-up questions on our website stpetersluthan.org. If you prefer a paper copy, you may request one from our office, as well.

We encourage you to read the document if you are interested in all of the details regarding what transpired. In the meantime, here’s a quick summary of what happened.

The short answer is that we made a mistake. We missed a provision in our bylaws that says that any proposed amendment to the bylaws needs to be presented in writing to Council 60 days before the meeting. That didn’t happen, so we shouldn’t have even been voting on the proposed amendments in the first place (check out the “Constitution Update” document for details about the amendments). Because our vote on the overall constitution mistakenly assumed that these amendments had been added, we believe it is necessary for us to vote again. We deeply apologize for this error, as we want to be good stewards of your time.

One of the lessons your rostered leaders and your lay leaders have learned is that even when a lot of time is invested in updating the church’s constitution, and when your time has been invested in reading and listening to the updates about the constitution, details can still be missed and errors can be made. The poet Alexander Pope wrote “To err is Human; to Forgive, Divine.” The leadership is aware of the procedural missteps we made, and ask for your grace as we rectify some of the mistakes. We also ask for your thoughts, your questions, and your presence at the upcoming meeting in February.

Which brings us to next time! We are working hard to make this right, so we can have a simple and efficient meeting that meets all of the requirements to approve the constitution that our committee has worked on diligently for so many months. We are reaching out to those who proposed amendments and to others who expressed concerns, we are reviewing parliamentary procedure, and we are highlighting the sections of our constitution that pertain to voting. Soon, you will hear about a new date (probably in February) where we will vote again to approve constitutional changes to send to the synod for review. Along with the meeting date, you will receive information about any amendments that will be proposed at that time. You will have at least 60 days to review all of the material before you vote and plenty of time to ask questions.

We understand that this has been a confusing and frustrating time, and we thank you for being part of “getting things right.” We look forward to formalizing our new and improved constitution in 2019!

Peace,

Pastor Craig Ross and Pastor Sarah Teichmann

Sages Early Christmas Service

A Special Invitation to all St. Peter's Sages



On Thursday, December 20th, we will have our annual Sages Christmas Service at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary followed by a luncheon. The event is open to all members who are 80 years old or older. Communion is offered in the pews and the congregation is seated for the entire service. The choir will be offering special music during the service. Watch for your invitation in the mail and feel free to invite friends or family to join you. Please make a reservation if you plan to attend the luncheon to the church office (717-569-9211) or Christine Smith (717-299-0949) by December 14th. A sign-up sheet is also available on the Parish Life Bulletin Board, outside the Church Nursery. Reservations are only needed if you plan to attend the luncheon. If you need a ride, let us know. We look forward to hosting many of our Sages and guests.

Service Opportunity: Drivers Needed for Sages Christmas Event December 20

Our Christmas Sages Service will be held Thursday, December 20th. If you're able to give one of our Sages a ride to service, please sign up on the Parish Life bulletin board outside the Church Nursery or call Christine Smith at 717-299-0949. Thank you! Approximate times, 10:30 a.m. drop off and 1:30 p.m. pick up.

Christmas Poinsettia Delivery



The flower delivery team is looking for extra volunteers to deliver a Christmas poinsettia and gift to St. Peter's shut-in members who are not able to attend a Christmas service. It is a great family opportunity to meet and connect with our older members. Deliveries can be made on December 25th or in the days that follow. If interested, sign up on the Parish Life bulletin board outside the church nursery, or contact Christine Smith at cjsmith1984@gmail.com or (717) 299-0949. Twenty volunteers are needed, so please consider helping. This promises to be a rewarding experience and a way to give back to those who have given so much to St. Peter's in the past.

December Church Office Schedule

Please note the following schedule for the Church Office this month:

- 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Normal Schedule) through Friday, December 21st
- 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 Noon on December 24th (Christmas Eve)
- OFFICE CLOSED on December 25th (Christmas Holiday)
- OFFICE CLOSED on December 26th (Christmas Holiday)
- 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Flex-hours) on December 27th, 28th and 31st
- OFFICE CLOSED on January 1st (New Year's Day)
- 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Normal Schedule) beginning January 2nd



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 6th. We will formally install our 2018 Congregation Council along with our Congregational Officers. Additionally, we will recognize and commission our committee chairs and committee members who are present.

Advent Midweek Services, Wednesdays at 7am and 7pm



Throughout the Bible, God promised The Advent or coming of his son, Jesus. This is one of the most important events in all of human history — the almighty, eternal, creator of the universe becoming human, living among us, and suffering on our behalf in order to give us life.

This year we will mark each week of Advent with a midweek service featuring the themes of hope, peace, and joy as they connect to the Advent of our Lord.

To assist with these themes we will be using videos from the Bible Project. Short videos will be offered during the service. We believe that these beautifully created videos, along with closed caption text, will help tell the story of the Lord's Advent.

Midweek services gather on Wednesday at 7am and 7pm in the chapel. Worship includes Advent liturgy, Scripture, a message, and beautiful hymnody for the season.

Here is the schedule of themes and leaders for the season:

Wednesday, December 5th: HOPE - Pastor Craig

Wednesday, December 12th: PEACE – Vicar Nancy

Wednesday, December 19th: JOY – Pastor Sarah

Adam Lefever Hughes and Nancy LeFevre will offer musical leadership each week

Advent Season at New Day Praise Service, 10:45am in the Family Life Center

Advent begins on December 2 and the New Day Praise service will be doing something a little different from the Traditional services. This year the themes of being present in the season of Advent are lifted up. Along with the Advent themes, we will incorporate Christmas hymns and songs—both ancient and new!



December 2: **Be present** as Christ is coming to be present with us.

December 9: **Send peace** as the Prince of Peace is on His way.

December 16: **Share joy** so others may taste and see God's goodness.

December 23: **Wrap in love** as God is love, we are called to wrap others in love, as well.

Christmas Eve Children's Sermon Helpers Needed



Pastor Ross is looking for young people, teens, and parents to help with the annual Christmas Eve Children's sermon at the two Family Services. If you want to participate, please fill out the form below and return it to Pastor Ross. Teens (7th Grade and older) serve as group leaders for the younger children (Kindergarten age and up). Parents help with some organization of the kids. The two rehearsals will be on:

Thursday, December 13 at 6:30 PM

Tuesday, December 18 at 6:30 PM

Name: _____ Age: _____ Child / Teen (Circle one)

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Parents: _____ I/we can help

We will participate in the 3:00 PM / 5:00 PM service (circle both or one)



Adult Christian Education

Weekdays

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesday Morning Bible Study continues its schedule in December, as we work through the early sessions of our “**Comparative Study of the Four Gospels.**” We will attempt to journey through the narrative of Jesus’ life in our four gospels, with an eye to the places where:

- The four Gospels agree and differ in their content
- The order of the events in Jesus’ life agree and differ
- The theological lens through which they portray Jesus life.
- The unique “gifts” of each Gospel.



We will follow this study through the remainder of the year into early May. Why not consider joining this vibrant group of 40-50 fellow believers as we study familiar material in ways that always open up faith discussion, historical reflection, and theological questions. Pastor Ross facilitates the class which meets in the Café on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Friends are welcome. Modest snacks and drinks are provided. Our December schedule is:

- December 5 – Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 4-7)
- December 12 – Sermon on the Plain (Luke 6)
- December 19 – Ministry in Galilee (Matthew 8-10, Luke 7)
- December 26 – NO CLASS (Christmas Break)

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

St. Peter’s offers three distinct classes for our adults during the Sunday School hour (9:15 - 10:15 a.m.)

Please note: No classes on December 30th

Crosspoints (Conference Room) - This class is a combination of Theology, Church history and the intersection of Faith and Life. This class takes place Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Conference Room. Bring your coffee. Bring your comments. Bring your smiles.

- December 2 – Here We Stand series – End Times with Pastor Sarah
- December 9 – Leaders Choice with Jenny Sassaman
- December 16 – Here We Stand series – A Notion of Conscience with Vicar Nancy
- December 23 – Leaders choice – Pastor Craig

Faith and Values (Room 100) - This Fall, the Faith & Values class explores different topics of our life and faith. During December, we will discuss issues centering around the following topics:

- December 2 - Called To Be Pure In Heart
- December 9 - Making Peace
- December 16 - Blessings and Suffering
- December 23 - Christ in our Midst

We meet in Room 100 at 9:15 a.m. All are welcome.

Sunday Morning Bible Study with Pastor Jeff Pretz (Room 118)

Pastor Pretz’s Sunday Morning Bible Study meets in Room 118. Each Sunday this class will explore in depth the Gospel reading for that day.

Social Ministry



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

Our December Distribution Day is Saturday, December 1st from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Contact Molly Olmsted if you can help out (astaloo@me.com).



January Community Meal

Wednesday, January 2nd at 4:30 p.m., Grace Lutheran Church.
Contact Jan Gigl at ronjangigl@comcast.net for more information on how to help!

Community Meal

Christmas Giving Trees are up in the Narthex and Youth Lounge. Items are due by Sunday December 16th. Please return your items by these dates! Items will go to needy families, children and youth in the Manheim Township School Districts and City of Lancaster.



Fellowship

Congregational Christmas Dinner Theater

Sunday, December 9th — 5:30 p.m.

This year's original production is called *A Not So "Stable" Christmas*

Tickets will be available beginning Sunday, November 18th. Tickets will be sold by donations this year! There will be no tickets sold at the door – so get yours by Wednesday, December 5th.

Kids' Angel Choir Participants Needed!

Children needed for our "Angel Choir" for the Dinner Theater on Sunday, December 9th in the Family Life Center. Grades K-4 are welcome to be part of this group – we will have practice on Sundays, November 25th from 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. and December 3rd at 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. (Dinner provided this day in the FLC).

Forms are on the youth and children's ministry boards or contact Sister Dottie at dottie@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org



Women's Winter Retreat

Friday, January 18th through Sunday, January 20th

Our theme this year is "*Holy Imagination*"

Camp Kirchenwald

Cost: \$80.00

Come for a weekend of learning and fellowship. Details and Registration forms are on the Adult Ed board or by contacting Sister Dottie



New Year's Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner

Tuesday, January 1st — 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Help needed – contact Peter Murdock at pburdock@yahoo.com or look for a signup sheet on the fellowship board.

Global Missions Ministry

THEY'RE BACK!! PIGS, CHICKS, GOATS, BEES!!

They are all back in a brand new wooden STABLE created by our very own Pastor Jeff Pretz! They are here during ADVENT, starting at the Craft Show on November 24th, through December 23rd! Are you ready to give one of these critters to someone you love or admire as a “special” Christmas gift this year?



Yes-- we all have a chance to give a gift of LIFE, HOPE, FOOD, WATER, HEALTH CARE, and EDUCATION to people all over the world who do not have what we have. We can help drive down the human cost of extreme poverty. How? By taking some of these ornaments on the STABLE, sending a check to ELCA WORLD HUNGER and hanging these ornaments on our Christmas trees to remind us that we have given a “special” gift to those who have so little.

So – come visit our STABLES (in the Narthex and at New Day worship space) and give a PIG, a CHICK, a GOAT – or any other of the life-saving gifts. Take an ELCA Good Gifts catalog home with you! You might find some other “special gifts” to share.

See you at the STABLE!!

From the Tanzania Mission Committee



The 12th Annual Cookie Walk is almost here! Just to remind you: Saturday, December 8th, from 9:00 a.m. - noon in the Narthex. Homemade Christmas cookies baked by the congregation — \$15 and \$8 containers available. Fun!

Thanks to those who have already signed up to bake those marvelous cookies. Sunday, December 2nd is the last day for bakers to sign up. A double batch of Christmas cookies to be brought to church on Friday, December 7th, noon - 7:00 p.m. Thanks to ALL from the Tanzania Mission Committee!

The Website Is Your Friend!

December is a rather busy month at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, and you don’t want to miss out on a program, a worship service, a devotional, or any other faith formational event. Why not make it easy on yourself and 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 call the church office at 717-569-9211. The office staff will love to hear from you.



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 sshattuck@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org to sign up and start receiving the “Herald” by email. Please note: You may also pick up a copy at the Welcome Desk or Literature Racks.

Prayer Chain Ministry

DID YOU KNOW.....As we reflect on the year, the members of the Prayer Chain continue to be humbled by the trust and faith you show in us by asking us to pray for you and your loved ones. During the year, we have receive around 500 requests for prayer. We also have an Ongoing list of over 30 requests and we pray for each family in the church a few times a year. If you have ever given us a request, we always appreciate a 'follow up' to let us know how things worked out. We know the results aren't always what we had hoped and prayed for, however we trust God's will is done. Take a few minutes during this hectic time of the year and say a prayer of thanks for all you have. We wish you a very Merry Christmas season



Poem Prayer for December 2018

By: Janice Riegel,

St. Peter's Prayer Chain



The Wonders of Christmas

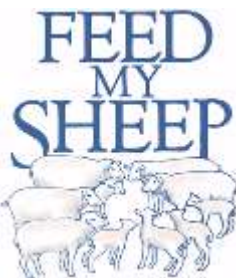
The quietness of falling snow
The lights in windows all aglow
The doors of churches open wide
Beckoning all to come inside.

The choirs their mighty anthems sing
In praise and glory to our King
For the Christ child was born so long ago
In a manger which was so meek and low.

At Christmas time and all year through
Lord, we give our hearts and lives to you
Then the gifts that we give on Christmas day
Will reflect your love in every way.



The Sheep are Hungry! Please Help Feed Them



Needed in December: *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.* Food Carts are in the Narthex. Items go to the Lancaster County Council of Churches Food Bank.

Thanks for your donations!

Health and Wellness Committee

MANAGING STRESS



Pay attention to your level of stress, which may increase during busy times, like the holidays, or times of change. Stress is a physical and emotional response to overwhelming responsibilities, events, and changes. When you're faced with stress, hormones (chemicals in your body) may trigger changes in your body. For instance, your * Heart may pound * Blood pressure may rise * Stomach may become tense and * Muscles may tighten.

Stressors (the effects of stress) may include the following:



- Adapting to constant, rapid change.
- Worries about your finances and the economy.
- Handling a major life event, such as changing jobs or moving to a new home. Even positive life changes, such as getting married or the birth of a child, often cause stress.
- Juggling many roles and responsibilities.
- Going from one stressful situation to the next without taking time to relax. Even keeping up with our cell phone messages, e-mails, and text messages!

If you're often under stress, you need to learn to manage it well. Stress can affect your well-being. Over time, you may show some of the symptoms listed below.

- Physical effects: You may have frequent colds or flu, headaches, or trouble sleeping or you may have trouble with digestion.
- Mental effects: You may have trouble concentrating or remembering.
- Emotional effects: You may feel anxious, depressed, angry, or irritable.
- Behavioral effects: Too much stress may lead you to eat poorly, or turn to drugs/alcohol.

Basic Stress Management Suggestions:

Regular Physical Activity—Take a brisk walk or do something else that is active. Regular physical activity is best for reducing stress.

Problem Solving—Learn problem solving skills! They can improve your ability to cope.

Relaxation Training—Learn relaxation and mindfulness skills. These skills can help you to notice and manage the responses in your body that come with stress. Daily relaxation may protect you from some of the consequences of stress.

Time Management—List what needs to get done, make plans for addressing issues, and stick to the plan.

Positive Thinking—Stress is often associated with negative thinking. Focus your attention on positive thoughts.

Pleasant Activities—You may be feeling the effects of stress if you are not making time for fun in your life. Plan to have regular, enjoyable activities and see if this reduces your stress.

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE DECEMBER 7TH

Articles for the January 2019 "Herald" are due in the church office no later than **December 7th**. Please submit articles to Sandy Shattuck in the church office or email sshattuck@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

Worship and Music at St. Peter's

Worship Leadership Schedule

SUNDAY	8:00	10:45	NEW DAY
DEC. 2	Canticle Choir	Herald Choir	Youth Choir
DEC. 9	None	None	
DEC. 16	Exsultate Ringers, Youth Choir	St. Peter's Ringers, Herald Choir	
DEC. 23	None	Jubilate Choir, Herald Choir	Exsultate Ringers

Church Musical – Noah's RemARKable Voyage

This year's church musical will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 3, 2019. Similar to last year, a number of rehearsals are scheduled for Thursdays and Saturdays:

Thursdays (6:00-7:15pm)

January 24

January 31

February 7

February 14

February 21

February 28

Saturdays (10:00-11:00am)

January 5

January 12

February 2

February 9

February 16

February 23 (10:00-noon)

Plan to be at most of these to feel prepared. Printed and recorded music (for in-car practice!) are available on a table outside the Music Room or by contacting Adam. All are welcome!



Youth Singing Christmas Carols at Dickey's Barbecue Pit

Youth and children are singing Christmas Carols from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on December 4th at Dickey's Barbecue Pit, 2481 E. Lincoln Highway, Lancaster. Children and Youth will sing from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. earning some money to support educational ministries at St. Peter's. All are invited to come hear the sounds of the season while sharing a tasty meal.

Musical Arts – Saturday, December 15, 2018, 7:00 p.m. – Rizzetta's Tones

Rizzetta's Tones, a celtic band with Bill Stine, comes to St. Peter's Saturday, December 15th to take the stage as the second act of the 2018-2019 Musical Arts series at St. Peter's. Come for what promises to be an uplifting evening of beautiful music including some Christmas tunes with a Celtic flair. Hope to see you there!

Sages Choir

The Sages choir will rehearse from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 18th to prepare to lead the Sages Christmas Service on Thursday, December 21st at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome!



TWITTER — Welcome to the active (!) Twitter community for Saint Peter's Lutheran Church. Please follow us @stpeterslanc and use #stpeterslanc to chat about the sermon or events.



Pastor's Letter

“Can We Tawk?”

(“Coffee Talk” ladies, SNL skit, circa 1992-94)

Can We Tawk, Part 1 – Advent is a season of anticipation. We wait for Jesus’ arrival in the manger in Bethlehem ... and we await Jesus’ arrival at the end of all days, when God writes the final chapter on earth and the rest of the created universe, and ushers in the Kingdom of God in its fullest and most comprehensive form. Thus the themes of “waiting and watching” run full bore during the four-week Advent season which leads us to the edge of the cradle, ankle deep in straw and every other muck that accompanies that straw in a working stable. As such, one cannot talk about Jesus’ coming to us at Christmas and the last days, without at least thinking about Jesus’ regular coming to us in the sacrament of the Altar. Some of our Eucharistic prayers offer this congregational affirmation, “*We proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.*” Others offer it in simpler language ... “*Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.*” So if we yearn for Jesus’ coming in the future, and cherish the memory of his first coming, it is inevitable to yearn for and cherish Jesus’ coming in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Can We Tawk, Part 2 – In recent months, I have offered a few passing comments about this yearning and cherishing of the Sacrament of the Altar in some sermons. I may have also done the same in conversation around the new Vision Statement we approved at last month’s Annual Meeting. In reflecting on our Vision Statement’s intentions to “*develop a meaningful relationship with God*” and “*model our faith*”, I cannot help but recognize the gift of Christ’s real presence in the Eucharist as the most reliable resource for that kind of modeling and relationship building. If you have been around St. Peter’s for a while, you are aware that this is not a new discussion for us. We “stirred the pot” of conversation back in the mid-to-late 1990’s on this same topic. At that time, we celebrated communion on the first Sunday of the month and festivals. So this is not new language for me, but is language I have let lapse since the building of our new addition in 2005. In light of some of the other priorities that were more compelling for me and (in my judgment) the congregation as well, as we lived into this new building that brought with it all kinds of new possibilities for ministry. Our vision statement has gotten the language back into my head.

Can We Tawk, Part 3 – Having said all this, we (your rostered leaders, Worship Committee, Council) have no immediate specific plans for actively moving into a timeline for establishing weekly communion at all our services. We have no process in mind, nor any timeline that we are following. I am quite simply exercising the calling of my pastoral office to share with you one of the many rhythms of faith that compel me at the moment, and getting it back on the table of discussion. If and when we have a plan for addressing the issue of weekly communion, you will be the first to know, after it has been vetted through the Worship Committee and Council. For the moment we are just “tawking.” And I would invite you to do the same. With your family members, your friends, your church leaders, your pastors ... and hey, a few words with God wouldn’t be such a bad idea either, right? Send us an email ... write us a note ... sit down with us ... let us know what you think. But there is no secret agenda that we are trying to sneak by you. I can only speak for myself in saying, that ain’t how I operate. If you know me, you know that. So ... can we tawk? Absolutely! Till then, I’ll ...

See you in Church ...

Pastor Craig

craig@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org



Pastor Sarah's Message

Dear friends in Christ,

The other day I was in a music planning meeting—and it was my favorite kind of music planning meeting—because we were planning Advent and Christmas music. I love Advent and Christmas music. There's nothing like listening to youth sing carols at the top of their lungs, hearing a congregation sing "Silent Night" surrounded by candlelight, or the guy in line next to you humming his favorite Christmas song.

I believe music speaks deeply to our faith, our story, and our very soul. It is one of the reasons why this Advent we are creating a video devotional series focusing on music and how music gifts us with faith, hope, and love during this time of year. (So stay tuned)

One of my (new) favorite hymns is *Love Has Come*. You can find it in the hymnal as hymn 292. With the tune *Un Flambeau* (or in English *Bring A Torch, Janette Isabella*), we sing these verses:

v.1 *Love has come, a light in the darkness!
Love explodes in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it.
Hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high!*

v.2 *Love is born! Come share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of His mother.
What is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers.
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.*

v.3 *Love has come, He never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to You, God on high!*

Love is Jesus within and among us. Yes, indeed this is love!

In the letter from 1 John 4:7-8 we read, "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." In the Gospel of John we read "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." -John 1:14

Yes, love with flesh on came into the world in order to save us from ourselves, and now this love dwells and lives within and among us. The other day I came across a post from the author Anne Lamott where she wrote, "We can be love with skin on."

Dear friends of Christ, may the music of this season sing to your soul about the love of God made flesh in the Christ child. May you be love with skin on this season. May you feel the love of Jesus within and among you. May this love be the peace your heart is seeking.

In Christ's spirit and love,

Pastor Sarah

steichmann@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org

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 Samantha Cuascut, Director of Children's Ministries if you have any questions.



Letter From the Vicar

Dear Congregation,

Conversations about weakness, failure and fear frequently take place among Jesus and his followers. But in church, we silently confess our sins. We look to God as individuals and accept our share of corporate forgiveness. Although surrounded, most of us stand alone in the privacy of our weakness, failures and fears. Conversations about such things are rare/uncomfortable.

St. Peter's responds well to crisis. The congregation rises to generosity, as needed.

If you're able to attend church, you can attest to at least one simple blessing: looking forward to a baked good on Sunday morning. Personally, I duck in and grab, then run to my office in a state of transition. The obvious risk to approaching the coffee bar is engaging in conversation. Many of you successfully avoid this risk, completely.

As your church and community volunteer efforts have become apparent, so has your heart of compassion. Members seem willing to share concerns with pastors and the prayer team, but I wonder... what is St. Peter's climate for openly sharing physical, emotional or spiritual hurts? It seems to me (for the most part) that you are private people travelling in public spheres.

Through various surveys and spiritual inventories you have helped cultivate and nurture faith community that extends beyond our church walls. We have seen how community achieves what individuals cannot.

Yet, individually, every member faces the threat of loneliness and isolation. Talk of hardship and questions about daily life often go unspoken or unheard. Mutual beliefs and faith practices bind our associations as congregants. Worship liturgy joins us together, even when our values and other defining characteristics markedly differ. But, every generation is struggling to find purpose and meaning.

Being in a state of transition has become the new constant, regardless of age, gender, employment status, or state of independence. Society promotes unhealthy coping mechanisms in the form of indulgence. Marketers offer prescriptive cures and regimens whenever crises keep us from functioning optimally. It's time for confession.

Ever wonder why so little time is allotted for silent confession at the beginning of worship? In those few seconds, only my most recent sins surface. They're usually the same, week after week: pride, fear and anger. What are yours? Can we begin to have open conversations about weakness, failure and fears? (Things God talks about openly, all the time?)

Begin your holiday preparations in this new way, now. Discover a new type of authentic joy and mutual gifting.

Merry Advent and Christmas,

Vicar Nancy

nbrody@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS??? MEETING A FRIEND FOR LUNCH OR DINNER??? BUYING GROCERIES??? Did you know you could do ALL these things (and many more) while also helping the Debt Reduction Fund here at church??? Simply buy a gift card for Stauffers, Oregon Dairy, Weis or Giant while at church on Sunday and use the gift card yourself while you are shopping in these stores! 5% of the gift card dollar amount goes directly to our Debt Reduction. Gift cards are available in the Narthex on Sundays at the Card Sharks table and from the church office during normal business hours. Thank you for you participation!

From the Director of Music



Beginning at the End

It's funny how beginnings and endings often coincide. For a new thing to begin, often an old thing must pass away. We start new jobs after leaving our old ones. The new year comes about as the old one ends. The month of December brings about many endings and beginnings. We look toward the coming of the new calendar year, but in the church, we also look at a new liturgical year.

Advent, the beginning of the church year, can feel a bit more like an ending. Luke relates to us that heaven and earth will pass away. John the Baptist tells us the crooked will be made straight and the high places made low. We are warned of baptism by fire and Mary sings her song of turning where God scatters the proud, brings down the powerful, and lifts up the lowly. Such talk seems to be in direct opposition to the songs we sing about comfort, joy, hope, and expectation.

Yet, I have often felt that joy is all the more potent when set in relief by sorrow. Perhaps you do too. Laughter amidst tears, hope and despair, life and death. These may all seem like opposites, but often we find that each one needs its partner to mean something. The church is a lot like this. We sing of awaiting a heavenly kingdom ("come, thou long-expected Jesus") but we also proclaim that God is already ruler of all. We sing of Jesus the Lamb of God and Jesus the Good Shepherd. We sing of Jesus' death on a cross and Jesus, risen, bringing in the kingdom. We hold these things together because together they mean more that way than each one does on its own.

However, its not as if we suddenly pretend Jesus hasn't been born yet because it's Advent. We simply cannot go about our daily lives without any expectation that God will come into our lives because we know where the story is going. We know Jesus comes to us in the stable and what Jesus will go on to do for us. Instead, we live through Advent with hopeful expectation that God will continue to break into this world again and again.

The message of Advent is not that we are waiting for Jesus to be born. The message of Advent is that we joyfully expect God to continue to break into our world in unexpected ways. It's even bigger than our own time and place, though. We look toward those end times, the last days, when God will come to the world one final time to enfold all within God's care. Weeping and sorrow will be no more and our hopes and expectations will come to fruition. We look for God's coming now, but also look toward God's final arrival to this broken world

This Advent, we joyfully sing of our expectation that God will come into our lives. We willingly call for God to stir up his power and come. We light candles, pray together, and hold our breath as we await that glorious day when Jesus will enter every heart.

Peace, hope, joy, and comfort to you this Advent season,

Adam



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



Youth & Family Ministry News...

Please note that the events for our youth group have changed. Some events are age specific!

Calendar

Friday November 30th



Santa Workshop

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Club 56 will create gingerbread houses – bring candy decorations to share.

Grades 7 and up are needed to help with the event.



Sunday December 2nd

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. - Christmas Dinner Theater practice. Dinner provided.

Tuesday December 4th

Youth Christmas Caroling at Dickey’s BBQ restaurant – Lincoln Highway East – 6:00 -8:00 p.m.



Sunday December 9th

Christmas Dinner Theater – 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Servers Report by 5:00 p.m.

Actors report by 5:30 p.m.

Youth Sunday School will be off Sunday, December 30th. We will resume on January 6th.



2018 Youth Winter Retreat Dates:

February 1-3: Grades 9-12 at Camp Kirchenwald

February 15-17: Grades 5-8 at Camp Kirchenwald

Watch for registration information in January.



If you have any questions, please contact Sister Dottie Almoney, Parish Deaconess at dottie@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org

St. Peter’s Preschool



Empowering families...feeding children

Every week Power Packs Project provides meal packs for students who live in a food insecure home. These packs are filled with a recipe and the ingredients to prepare it. In addition, they send home shelf staples like cereal, milk and juice. One key item that is distributed to their families is **protein**.

In the spirit of the holiday season, St. Peter’s preschool will be hosting **Protein Drive** to support the 42 families in our Manheim Township community who are in need. All protein collected will help feed families over the extended holiday break. Children are never too young to learn about sharing, compassion and kindness. At St. Peter’s we pride ourselves on helping build a stronger community.

If you would like to contribute to our Protein Drive, these are the items needed: 10 oz. cans of chicken; 5 oz. cans of tuna. There will be a bin marked “Power Packs Project” at the preschool entrance. The cans may be placed there.

Another important protein handed out is peanut butter. Since we are a nut free school, monetary donations will be accepted for the Power Packs Project to purchase it at the food bank. Cash can be given directly to the classroom teacher and should be labeled “Power Packs Project.”

For more information, please visit their website www.powerpacksproject.org. They are located at 1006 New Holland Ave., Lancaster, PA (717-517-9220).

Lorraine DiBernardo, Preschool Director lorraine@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org



ST. PETER'S KIDS!



November 30th – **Santa Workshop.** Need a night out without the kids? Then bring your children ages 4 (by November 30th) through 6th grade to our Santa’s Workshop. A registration form is available on the Children’s Ministries’ board located outside of the church office or you can register online at <https://stpeterslutheran.org/santa-workshop>. Festivities will take place from 5pm-8pm on Friday, November 30th. Dinner will be served in the café followed by many fun activities, including the children “shopping” for small gifts for their family (ages 4 through 4th grade only). The 5th and 6th graders will have their own seasonal activities (no “shopping” for this age). The suggested donation for this fun event is \$5 per child or \$10 per family (whichever is cheapest!) Please note: This event is open to church members and prospective church members only. Email Miss Samantha with any questions.



December 8 – **Breakfast with Santa-** Mark your calendars for this fun community event which will take place beginning at 8:30am in the Family Life Center. The morning will feature a pancake breakfast, free professional photos and meet and greet with Santa, and caroling. Please pre-register at <https://stpeterslutheran.org/santa-breakfast> to reserve your time slot with Santa by December 5. A free will offering will be collected.

December 23 and December 30 – **No Sunday School** – Due to the Christmas holiday and New Year’s Day holiday, there will be no Sunday school on December 23 or 30. Sunday school will resume on January 6th.



Volunteers needed for upcoming events! If you are able to help out at the Santa Workshop on November 30th or Breakfast with Santa on December 8th, please contact Samantha Cuascut at scuascut@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org to get started!

Faith in Action at Home: Giving as a family



Share the love this Christmas season by giving gifts as a family to those less fortunate. Consider selecting a recipient from the tree in the youth lounge and make it a point to shop for the gift as a family, talking about the importance of helping those less fortunate. Or, bake some cookies or take a small gift to an elderly person in your neighborhood. It’s always better to give than to receive, even for kids!

Sunday School Format Reminder:

Our Junior Explorer (preschool and kindergarten) **Sunday school classes** follow a traditional format. You may take your child to his/her classroom at 9:15 am, and then at 10:15 am, pick up your child in the same classroom.

Age 2/3 – Nursery (class is in the Puppy Room)

Age 4 – Bunny Room

Kindergarten - Frog Room

Rotation Sunday School is for children in grades 1 through grade 4. All Bible Explorers meet in the Family Life Center (FLC) at 9:15am every Sunday for an opening. From there, guides (adult volunteers) will lead them to their rotation activity. Because your child will be doing a different activity each week, their pick up room changes each Sunday. Check the Children’s Ministries’ bulletin board to see where you should pick up your child each week.

If you have any questions, contact Samantha Cuascut, Director of Children’s Ministries at scuascut@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org.



Groups and Events



WELCA MEETING! - Be sure to join us at our WELCA Christmas meeting on Thursday, December 13th at 9:00 a.m. in Room 124. A light breakfast will be served. Please bring a \$5 wrapped gift to be used in playing the **Left - Right Christmas** game as well as a **5 to 10 minute Christmas story or poem** to share with the group. The Personal Care item is bath-size soap in original wrapping. All women are welcome. Any questions, contact Sally Rager, 569-6119 or Kathy Caldwell, 569-9959.

50 PLUS - Please join us for our Christmas Celebration at the Eden Resort on Thursday, December 6. We will again meet in the Encore Room at 12 noon and enjoy Arthur's buffet and each other's company. The cost is \$16 paid in advance to Randy Shue. If you don't normally come to 50+, you are welcome to join us. If you have any questions, please contact Debra Shue at 717-318-8848. Upcoming meetings will feature Karen Peiffer in February speaking about the arts and in March, Edee Bedford will regale us with her insights into the Amish.

JUST FOR FUN — Just for Fun Christmas Event will be held on December 8 from 4pm to 6pm at the home of Julie Tritch (630 Willow Green, Lititz). Please bring your favorite appetizer or dessert. Wine and coffee will be provided. Please feel free to join us even if you are not a regular! You may bring a guest as well. It's a great way to get to know others in the church in a warm and informal setting. We'd love to have you. For questions contact Julie at 717-572-5475. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Camp Corner



Winter is a quieter time at camp. There are still opportunities to find peace and fun in God's nature. **Adults** are invited to the Advent Day Apart on December 8 at the Wittel Farm. This event is a time to prepare for the birth of Christ through Bible study. **Youth**, grades 3-9, are invited to a Winter Retreat from January 4-6 at Kirchenwald where they will play broom hockey on the frozen pond, go sledding, play snow soccer, and more! Creative Bible studies and worship experiences with summer camp counselors are also an important part of this weekend. Contact Joy & Lyle Hosler (joy@hoslerfamily.net; 717-560-4753) with any questions.

Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are looking for additional volunteers to help in the nursery. We recently lost several long-time volunteers, so we need more adults to fill the schedule. If you are available to volunteer, please contact Patti Courtois at pjc898@gmail.com or 717-575-6898 and provide your name, email address, phone number, and preferred service (early, late, or Sunday school hour). We particularly ask parents using the nursery to consider volunteering. Youth helpers are also welcome; contact Patti to schedule your preferred dates and times.



NARTHEX COFFEE BAR



Thanks to all our faithful members who provide baked goods and serve coffee. **We are always looking for helpers and bakers!!** If you love to bake, we need you. As always, we thank Laretta Stutzman, Ann & Rich Larrick and Tim Fickes for picking up the donated baked goods from Giant. Have questions? Please feel free to send me an email at lcwolf01@hotmail.com

Traditional Worship Assistant Schedule for December

	ACOLYTE/ CROSSBEARER *both Acolyte & Crossbearer	LECTORS	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	USHERS	BREAD & WINE PRESENTERS
December 2 8:00 a.m.	Morgan Stuhltrager*	Dee Vulgaris	Diane Gegg James Lehman	Harry Ward, Nancy Bornholm, Tom Rothfus, Tom & Jean Haus, George Swan	Bill & Mary Ellen Kopetz
10:45 a.m.	Jade Miller *	Beth Glassford	Shirley Gerner, Thompson McConnell	Greg & Sylvia Lashley, Thompson, Betsy, Rory & Niamh McConnell	John & Laurel Salzmann
December 9 8:00 a.m.	Ling Ling Courtois	Margaret Stigelman	No Communion	Brent Bearinger, Tom Chever, Bob Courtois Dennis Maurer, Reed & Gloria Rodman	
10:45 a.m.	Nico Billoni *	Jim Gotwald	Paul Berkebile Janet Roberts	Jocelyn Kline, Dan Beck, Rich & Ann Larrick, Joe & Cindy Geesey	Bob & Pam Preston
December 16 8:00 a.m.	Sean O'Brien	Ena Marie Banks	Susan Ketchum Jennifer Schlener- Thomas	Ted Andrews, John Kerchner, Ken & Kitty Robinson, Terry & Marianne Beasley	Michael & Carla Winters
10:45 a.m.	Jade Miller *	Geoff Groff	No Communion	Bud Benton, Andy Hirko, Scott & Sharon Breedon, Jim & Jane Savidge	
December 23 8:00 a.m.	Blake Hoffmaster	Marianne Beasley	No Communion	Bret & Pam Hoffmaster, Bob & Phyllis Hollinger, Mark & Angela Moshos	
10:45 a.m.	Emily Beauregard *	Jordan Lambert	Kenneth Benner Margaret Strausser	Chris Shimer, Don & Kyle Templeton, Brian Tolbert, Scott & Kyle Trayer	Dave & Lis Wolf
December 24 3:00 p.m.	Cole Troop	Jill Pretz	Ginny Stickler Jeff Pretz	Bob, Christine, Braden & Kyra Rishell	Jeff & Anneliese Owen
5:00 p.m.	Ethan Groff	Thompson McConnell	Bob Courtois Nancy Pokopec	TBA	Patti & Maurielle Courtois
7:30 p.m.	Nico Billoni *	Judy Logan	Eric May Karen Peiffer	TBA	TBA
10:00 p.m.	Blake Hoffmaster	Becky Lutz	Geoff & Kathy Groff	TBA	Tom & Anna Mae Kenyon
December 30 9:45 a.m. (Combined with New Day)	Ling Ling Courtois	Mark Burkholder	No Communion	Bill & Linda Montgomery, Brad & Karen Ayars, Harry & Kelley Lutz	

Continued on next page

Traditional Worship Assistant Schedule for December (continued)

	GREETERS	WELCOME CENTER	AV/LIGHTING	NURSERY	ALTAR GUILD COORD.	ALTAR GUILD
December 2 8:00 am	John & Jill Kerchner	John & Kathy Burke	Terry McGuigan	Julie Gotwald, Alyssa Kerper	Deb Shue	Pat Bittler Judy Wenrich
10:45 am	Beverly Baker Bud Benton	Sherry Weller Lori Rowley	Bill Schlener	Ed & Tricia Cortes, Alyssa Kerper	Deb Shue	Barbara Beyer Tricia Hough
December 9 8:00 am	Bill & Mary Ellen Kopetz	Bob & Edee Bedford	Angela Moshos	Bob & Phyllis Hollinger, Alyssa Kerper		No Communion
10:45 am	Mark & Darla Cardin	Dave & Lis Wolf	David Wolf	Jen Podgurski, Alyssa Kerper	Deb Shue	Jocelyn Kline Peggy Stauffer
December 16 8:00 am	Kurt & Carolyn Ruch	Shirley Dombach Susie Roderick	Tom Chever	Amy Groff, Alyssa Kerper	Deb Shue	Burkholder Family
10:45 am	James & Martha Fulmer	Mark & Darla Cardin	Dave Tilley	Ed & Christina Borkenhagen, Alyssa Kerper		No Communion
December 23 8:00 a.m.	Dennis & Louise Sitler	Pam Hoffmaster Christine Ponti	Mark Burkholder	Mary Ann Oberholtzer, Alyssa Kerper		No Communion
10:45 a.m.	Jim & Julie Gotwald	Dick & Loretta Chubb	Bob Preston	Andrea Bear, Alyssa Kerper	Deb Shue	Loretta Chubb Linda Gall
December 24 3:00 p.m.	Clarence Simon Libby Stoner	Geoff & Kathy Groff	Bill Schlener	N/A	Deb Shue	Bigler Family
5:00 p.m.	Richard & Anne Wolf	Herb & Carolyn Galebach	Dave Tilley	N/A	Betsy Linn	Betsy Linn
7:30 p.m.	Alan & Beverly Swanson	Ron & Joan Beck	Bob Preston	Alyssa Kerper	Deb Shue	Suk Shuglie Christine Ponti
10:00 p.m.	Brian & Barbara Tolbert	Fred & Mary Husson	Randy Ketchum	N/A	Deb Shue	Anna Mae Kenyon Lois Vollmer
December 30 9:45 a.m. (Combined with New Day)	Bob & Phyllis Hollinger	Jim & Martha Fulmer	Rick Groff	Bob & Patti Courtois, Alyssa Kerper		No Communion



NURSERY 9:15 A.M.

December 2: Bob & Patti Courtois, Alyssa Kerper; December 9: Bob & Patti Courtois, Alyssa Kerper;
December 16: Bob & Patti Courtois, Alyssa Kerper; December 23: Bob & Patti Courtois, Alyssa Kerper.

NEW DAY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS — DECEMBER 2018

	December 2	December 9	December 16	December 23
Lector	Brendan Armitage	Joel Olmsted	Jennifer Sassaman	Sharon Schaefer
Communion Assistant	Molly Olmsted	No Communion	Jennifer Sassaman	No Communion
Ushers	Tim & Sharon Fickes	Mark & Sharon Schaefer	Brian & Brittney Booher	Bill & Drew Sassaman
Altar Guild	Ann Fink	Morgan Stuhltrager	Sarah Bromirski	Robin Schmincke
A/V Sound	Scott Fyfe	Scott Fyfe	Scott Fyfe	Scott Fyfe
Coffee Bar	Catherine Stover	Sprague Family	Hosler Family	Beth Soslow

December Flower Delivery Schedule

Date	Deliverer	Recipient
12/02	Christine Smith	Joan Groff
	Libby Stoner	Sue Mellinger
12/09	John & Kathy Burke	Bob & Janet Kemp
	Tim & Sharon Fickes	Velma Newcomer
12/16	Margie Stigelman	Mary Kammerer
	Betz Lind	Ann Dowie
12/23	None	None
12/25	All deliver	All receive
12/30	None	None

Worship Leader Coordinators

Acolyte, Crucifer, & Torch Bearer: Sylvia Lashley 872-4309

Altar Guild: Betsy Linn 618-9615

AV Room: Bill Schlener 725-2700 & Bob Preston

Bread & Wine Presenter: Jennifer Lehman 519-8851

CD & Flower Delivery: Christine Smith 299-0949

Communion Assistants: Karen Peiffer 569-3643

Greeters: Leigh Trayer 271-9268

Lectors: Thom McConnell 581-0068

Nursery: Patti Courtois 898-1898

Ushers: Nancy Beauregard 295-9814
& Beth Bigler 569-7843

Welcome Center: Mary Ann Oberholtzer 898-7823

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

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Saturday, December 1

10:00 a.m. - Clothing Bank (Youth Lounge)

Sunday, December 2

Name Tag Sunday

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

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Youth Choir (Music Room)

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

10:45 a.m. - New Day Worship & Communion (FLC)

10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary)

11:15 a.m. - WOLD Sunday School (Room 100)

6:00 p.m. - Dinner Theater Practice / Angel Choir Rehearsal

Monday, December 3

9:30 a.m. - Worship Leaders (Pastor's Office)

1:00 p.m. - Quilters (Augsburg Alley)

6:30 p.m. - Exsultate Ringers (Music Room)

7:30 p.m. - St. Peter's Ringers (Music Room)

8:00 p.m. - AA (Cry Room), Al Anon (Room 102)

Tuesday, December 4

10:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting (Conference Room)

1:30 p.m. - Rostered Text Study (Conference Room)

5:30 p.m. - African Drumming Instruction

6:00 p.m. - Youth Christmas Caroling (Dickey's BBQ)

Wednesday, December 5

7:00 a.m. - Advent Service (Chapel)

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)

1:00 p.m. - Community Meal Preparation (Kitchen)

2:00 p.m. - Evangelism Committee (Conference Room)

4:30 p.m. - Community Meal (Grace Lutheran Church)

6:30 p.m. - WOLD Bible Study (Room 100)

7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (Family Life Center)

7:00 p.m. - Advent Service (Chapel)

Thursday, December 6

12:00 p.m. - 50+ Fellowship (Eden Resort)

1:30 p.m. - Power Packs (FLC/Youth Lounge)

Friday, December 7

HERALD DEADLINE

9:00 a.m. - Santa Breakfast Setup (FLC/Café)

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

Saturday, December 8

8:30 a.m. - Santa Breakfast (FLC/Café)

9:00 a.m. - Cookie Walk (Narthex)

4:00 p.m. - Just for Fun (Home of Julie Tritch)

Sunday, December 9

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

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School

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

10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 9 (continued)

10:45 a.m. - New Day Worship (Family Life Center)

11:15 a.m. - WOLD Sunday School (Room 100)

5:30 p.m. - Christmas Theater Dinner (Family Life Center/Café)

Monday, December 10

9:30 a.m. - Worship Leaders (Pastor's Office)

1:00 p.m. - Quilters (Augsburg Alley)

6:30 p.m. - Exsultate Ringers (Music Room)

7:00 p.m. - Council Meeting (Off Site)

7:30 p.m. - St. Peter's Ringers (Music Room)

8:00 p.m. - AA (Cry Room), Al Anon (Room 102)

Tuesday, December 11

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

5:30 p.m. - African Drumming Instruction (Music Room)

Wednesday, December 12

7:00 a.m. - Advent Service (Chapel)

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)

6:30 p.m. - WOLD Bible Study (Room 100)

7:00 p.m. - Advent Service (Chapel)

7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (Family Life Center)

Thursday, October 13

9:00 a.m. - WELCA (Augsburg Alley)

1:30 p.m. - Power Packs (FLC/Youth Lounge)

6:00 p.m. - Jubilate Choir (Music Room)

6:30 p.m. - Children's Christmas Sermon Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

7:30 p.m. - Herald Choir (Music Room)

Friday, December 14

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

Saturday, December 15

7:00 p.m. - Musical Arts Concert (Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 16

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

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School

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

10:00 a.m. - Youth Choir (Music Room)

10:45 a.m. - New Day Worship & Communion (FLC)

10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

11:15 a.m. - WOLD Sunday School (Room 100)

Monday, December 17

9:30 a.m. - Worship Leaders (Pastor's Office)

1:00 p.m. - Quilters (Augsburg Alley)

6:30 p.m. - Capital Appeal Task Force (Conference Room)

6:30 p.m. - Exsultate Ringers (Music Room)

7:30 p.m. - St Peter's Ringers (Music Room)

8:00 p.m. - AA (Cry Room) Al Anon (Room 102)

(continued on next page)



LOOKING AHEAD

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 18

10:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
11:00 a.m. - Sages Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
5:30 p.m. - African Drumming Instruction (Music Room)
6:30 p.m. - Intern Committee (Cry Room)
6:30 p.m.—Children's Christmas Sermon Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:00 p.m. - Stewardship Committee (Conference Room)
7:00 p.m. - Long Range Planning (Cry Room)

Wednesday, December 19

7:00 a.m. - Advent Service (Chapel)
9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)
11:00 a.m. - Sages Luncheon Preparation (Kitchen)
6:30 p.m. - WOLD Bible Study (Room 100)
7:00 p.m. - Advent Service (Chapel)
7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (FLC)

Thursday, December 20

9:00 a.m. - Sages Luncheon Preparation (Kitchen/FLC)/Café)
11:00 a.m. - Sages Christmas Service (Sanctuary)
12:00 p.m. - Sages Luncheon (Café)
1:30 p.m. - Power Packs (Youth Lounge/FLC)
6:00 p.m. - Jubilate Choir (Music Room)
7:30 p.m. - Herald Choir (Music Room)

Friday, December 21

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

Sunday, December 23

8:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
9:15 a.m. - Adult Christian Ed (No Children's Sunday School)
10:00 a.m. - Youth Choir (Music Room)
10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
10:45 a.m. - New Day Worship (Family Life Center)
10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary)
11:15 a.m. - WOLD Sunday School (Room 100)
6:00 p.m. - Darkest Night Service (Sanctuary)

Monday, December 24

3:00 p.m. - Family Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)
5:00 p.m. - Family Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)
5:30 p.m. - WOLD Christmas Eve Service (Chapel)
7:30 p.m. - Christmas Eve Traditional Service (Sanctuary)
10:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Traditional Service (Sanctuary)

Tuesday, December 25

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26

Church Office Closed
6:30 p.m. - WOLD Bible Study (Room 100)

Thursday, December 27

1:30 p.m. - Power Packs (FLC/Youth Lounge)

Friday, December 28

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

Sunday, December 30

9:45 a.m. - Unified Worship (Sanctuary)
10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
11:15 a.m. - WOLD Sunday School (Room 100)

Monday, December 31

9:30 a.m. - Worship Leaders
5:00 p.m. - WOLD Coffee Fellowship (Narthex)
5:30 p.m. - WOLD New Year's Eve Service (Chapel)
8:00 p.m. - AA (Cry Room) Al Anon (Room 102)

If you have any questions, please contact me at

sshattuck@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org.

Sandy Shattuck

Editor & Parish Secretary

