

"The Herald" Newsletter St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Worship. Learn. Gather. Serve.

January 2019



10 Delp Road - Lancaster, PA 17601 (717) 569-9211

"The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him." Isalm 37:23

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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 **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 and clean up. 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. 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. For 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 6: The Epiphany of our Lord

Council & Officer Installation at all Worship Services

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

Sunday, January 13 The Baptism of Our Lord

New Day Service of the Word at 10:45 a.m.

--Pastor Sarah preaches

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

--Pastor Craig preaches

Sunday, January 20: The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

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

-- Sister Dottie preaches

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

--Vicar Nancy preaches

Sunday, January 27: The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Youth Sunday

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

- --Our Youth "preach" through the use of a Youth Drama
- --New Day and Traditional worship are combined today.

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 2019 Council and our congregational officers, while also saying thank you to those who have concluded their service in the 2018 year.

Church Office Closed for New Year's Day Observance

The Church Office will be closed on Tuesday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day. The Church Office will re-open on Wednesday, January 2nd.



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Adult Christian Education

Weekdays

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesday Morning Bible Study will meet throughout the month of January, as we continue to work through our study 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 January schedule is:

January 2 – No Class – New Year's Break January 9 – Sermon on the Plain (Luke 6)

January 16 – Ministry in Galilee (Matthew 8-10, Luke 7)

January 23 – TBA January 30 – TBA



January Pub Theology: Wednesday, January 16th, 6:30 p.m.

EOLOGY Place to be announced. Come for dinner and drinks or just drinks and discussion – RSVP to Sister Dottie at dottie@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org.

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.)

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.

January 6 - "Emergent Church" (1 of 2)

January 13 - How We Stand - Christian Ethics and Doctrine

January 20 - Leader's Choice

January 27 - How We Stand - Ross, Teichmann, Almoney, Brody

Faith and Values (Room 100) - We begin the New Year thinking about relationships, with God and with each other.



January 6: "Toward the Other" Taking a healing vs. a hostile posture

January 13: "Honoring Everyone" Honoring the other's voice, even when you are in opposition

January 20: "Ultimate Embrace" Being led by the compulsion to love

January 27: "The Very Good Gospel" The Good News is all about connection

Faith and Values meets on Sundays, 9:15-10:15 a.m., Room 100.

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

Pastor Pretz's Bible Study in January will start out on January 6th looking at the Epiphany Day lessons of the Star leading the Wise Men to Baby Jesus. On January 13th and 20th we will be studying the Creation Texts and comparing them. On January 27th we will be exploring the meaning of the Christ Event to each of us. This exploration may extend into February 3rd session. Come and start the new year with some special bible studies.

Social Ministry





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

Our January Distribution Day is Saturday, January 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Please contact Molly Olmsted if you can help out at <u>astaloo@me.com</u>.



January Community Meal

Our January meal will be Wednesday, January 2nd at 4:30 p.m., Grace Lutheran Church. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Jan Gigl at ronjangigl@comcast.net.

Fellowship



New Year's Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner

Tuesday, January 1^{st} — 11:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

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

Women's Winter Retreat

Friday, January 18th through Sunday, January 20th

Camp Kirchenwald

Cost: \$80.00

Our Theme will be *Holy Imagination*. The Holy Spirit works through creativity and our imaginations. Information can be found on the adult ministry bulletin board or by contacting Sister Dottie at dottie@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org.



Game Night!

Beat the winter blues, join us for an all ages game night! Dominoes, cards, board games, you name it we can play it! Bring your favorite game and show us how to play, join in with an old standby, or learn a new game and expand your horizons. Light snacks and hot cocoa will be provided! Friday, January 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Contact Lynn Fyfe at 717-519-0250 with any questions.



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.

Global Missions Ministry

DID YOU KNOW?

Global Missions Committee Educational Series

AUGUSTA VICTORIA HOSPITAL (AVH) is a church-hospital complex located on the southern side of Mount of Olives in East Jerusalem. The compound was built in 1907-1914 by the Empress Augusta Victoria Foundation as a center for the German Protestant community. Throughout its history the compound has been used mostly as a hospital either by the military (WWI and WWII) or as it is today, for Palestinian refugees and general public. Today, managed by the LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION, the hospital provides specialty care for Palestinians from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, for cancer treatment, dialysis, and pediatric care. It is the second largest hospital in Jerusalem and is the ONLY specialized care facility serving this population.

This past September, 2018, the US Congress approved a budget that will cut US funding to six hospitals in East Jerusalem, including AVH. This followed a policy review by the U.S. Administration that resulted in funding cuts affecting people in the West Bank and Gaza. With this cut in funds, AVH "is on the edge of bankruptcy," reported Dave Hardin, a former U.S. Agency for International Development administrator in the Middle East. Overall, AVH is owed over \$38 Million from the US Government (2017-2018), a situation that makes its continued service unsustainable.

Rev. Dr. Martin Junge, General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, commented, "The funding to the East Jerusalem Hospital Network is critical to ensure ongoing, lifesaving treatment for patients from the West Bank and Gaza.... The United States has made a significant investment in enabling medical care for the Palestinian people through the Augusta Victoria Hospital....We will continue to work hard to regain the US government support." (sources: Lutheran World Federation website and *Christian Century*, October 10, 2018 issue).

Learn more about Augusta Victoria Hospital and its Lutheran ties by visiting its website.

From the Tanzania Mission Committee

Our 12th Annual Cookie Walk was a huge success. All of the proceeds, \$5,442.00, will be wired to the Konde Diocese in Tanzania and will be used solely for the Busoka orphans, their education and other needs. Thank you to the 159 cookie bakers – your Christmas cookies were beautiful, smelled delicious, and were amazing -- and to those of you who donated money and/or came to the Cookie Walk with your family and friends on Saturday, December 8, to buy cookies and make this a fun and festive event.

Thanks to Alison Moffett, Maurielle Courtois and Emily Beauregard for the beautiful Christmas music; and thanks to the entire staff at St. Peter's and the Boy Scouts of Troop #84 for their help and support. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Finance Committee

November 2018 Financial Report

		Year to Date	Year to Date
	Month	Actual	Budget
General Fund Receipts	\$191,860	\$1,060,142	\$893,089
General Fund Expenses	\$61,705	\$924,944	\$961,190
Surplus (Deficit)	\$130,155	\$135,198	\$(68,101)
Debt Reduction Receipts	\$17,803	\$248,719	\$143,036
Debt Reduction Expenses	\$14,677	\$149,421	\$143,036
Surplus (Deficit)	\$3,126	\$99,298	
Total Surplus (Deficit)	\$133,281	\$234,496	

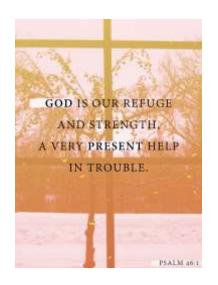
Prayer Chain Ministry

DID YOU KNOW......that during the month of January EVERY church family, both active & inactive, will be "given" to a member of the Prayer Chain and that family will be prayed for a few times throughout 2019? This is in addition to all the requests we receive during the year. We



recently welcomed Cindy Geesey to the Chain. Thank you Cindy for joining us! If you are looking for a way to serve the church in a committee that you do "when it suits your schedule", please consider joining us. Contact either Angela Moshos (717) 392-6201 or Ginny Gerhart (717) 626-7406 with any questions or for more information. Happy New Year!

Poem Prayer for January 2019 By: Janice Riegel, St. Peter's Prayer Chain



As we say our goodbyes to the year that has passed We look back on fond memories that are certain to last Like seeing a loved one who was injured and alone Get up from his wheelchair and walk on his own.

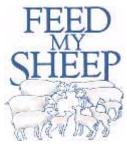
Or seeing a friend who was sent to Iraq Safely return and eagerly welcomed back.

The baby at birth who was thought soon to die Regain his strength slowly and open his eyes.

We see our God working in wondrous ways
As he leads us all onward and brightens our days
And our New Year ahead just like in the past
Will be a vision of Heaven that is certain to last.



The Sheep are Hungry! Please Help Feed Them



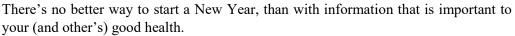
Needed in January: Peanut butter; jellies and jams; canned fruits; canned pasta; canned tomato products; spaghetti sauce; boxed macaroni and cheese; instant stuffing & potatoes; canned yams; complete pancake mix & syrup; canned tuna and chicken; tuna, beef & chicken helper; cereal; instant oatmeal. Food Carts are in the Narthex. Items go to the Lancaster County Council of Churches Food Bank.

Thanks for your donations!



Health and Wellness Committee

Start the New Year with: Information!





Did you know that January is Blood Donor Awareness Month? The act of giving blood is one of the most noble things you can do to help others, simply for the fact that you are creating a lifeline for people in need. The more people who participate in blood donation, the more people who are desperate for blood can be helped. It is a safe and harmless process in which almost everyone can take part. (Watch for an upcoming blood donor date at St. Peters)

Did you also know that January is Glaucoma Awareness Month? Glaucoma often goes undiagnosed because its symptoms remain silent for so long; but this group of diseases can be prevented! Studies have shown that damage to the optic nerve and consequent loss of vision or blindness may be prevented with *early detection and treatment*. This is why it's so important to be screened by your eye doctor on an annual basis. (Check with your insurance for coverage).

Finally, let's start out the New Year on the right foot by refocusing on our health. The holiday season can take its toll on our waistlines, so it's only fitting that January is Healthy Weight Awareness Month. Please try to start developing a healthier lifestyle today, and give of yourself to others, by donating blood, supporting one another, (and seeing your Doctor too).

Membership News

New Member Kiosk

Have you been attending St. Peter's for a while and you're not sure who is a new member? In our lobby area there is a kiosk with the pictures of new members and their families. Be sure to check out their picture and when you see them in person offer them a big welcome. It has only been a few months since these wonderful new folks have joined our faith family, and your extra effort can go a long way to help them be part of our community of faith!

New Member Classes: March 3 & March 10

We will be having classes for visitors who are considering becoming members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church. Classes will gather at 9:15 a.m. on March 3 and 10. The first session will focus on meeting the pastors and fellow new members. The second session will focus on ministries of the church as well as getting connected to members of the St. Peter's family. Interested? Contact Pastor Sarah Teichmann (<u>steichmann@StPeterslutheran-lanc.org</u>) or Pastor Craig Ross (<u>craig@StPeterslutheran-lanc.org</u>) or call the church at (717) 569-9211.

Groups and Events

WELCA MEETING! - Come to WELCA on Thursday, January 10th at 9:00 a.m. in Room 124. After a light breakfast is served we will welcome Vicar Nancy as our speaker. She will be discussing the ELCA's "Draft of a Social Statement on Women and Justice," focusing

on how the church is called "to honor and support women...in ways more consistent with life-giving theology and faith practices.". All women are welcome. Our Personal Care Kit item for January is adult-size toothbrushes in original wrapping. Any questions, contact Sally Rager, 569-6119 or Kathy Caldwell, 569-9959.



FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE JANUARY 10TH

Articles for the February 2019 "Herald" are due in the church office no later than <u>January 10th</u>. Please submit articles to Sandy Shattuck in the church office or email <u>sshattuck@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org</u>. Thank you for your cooperation.

Worship and Music at St. Peter's

Worship Leadership Schedule

SUNDAY	8:00	10:45
JANUARY 6	Canticle Choir	Herald Choir
JANUARY 13	Jubilate Choir	Herald Choir
JANUARY 20	Pick-up Choir	Herald Choir
JANUARY 27	Youth Choir, Exsultate Ringers	Youth Choir, Exsultate Ringers

Church Musical – Noah's RemARKable Voyage

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

Thursdays (6:00-7:15p.m.)	Saturdays (10:00-11:00a.m.)
January 24	January 5
January 31	January 12
February 7	January 19
February 14	February 2
February 21	February 9
February 28	February 16
	February 23 (10:00-noon)
	March 2 (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!

Multigenerational Pick-up Choir – January 20, 7:30 a.m.

Join the pick-up choir for the 8:00am service on January 20th! We'll warmup together at 7:30a.m., learn an easy anthem, and help to lead worship at the 8:00 service. What a great way to sing together without a weekly commitment! All are welcome.

Making Music is Fun!

Handbell ensembles resume rehearsals Monday, January 7th and vocal choirs resume Thursday, January 3th and Sunday, January 6th. See below for a full schedule:

Jubilate Choir (1st-5th grade vocal choir, meets Thursdays from 6:00-6:30)

Youth Choir (6th-12th grade vocal choir, meets Sundays from 10:00-10:20 and before youth group)

Herald Choir (10:45 adult vocal choir, meets Thursdays from 7:30-8:30)

Canticle Choir (8:00 adult vocal choir, meets between services, schedule can be provided)

Exsultate Ringers (beginner/youth handbell ensemble, meets Mondays from 6:30-7:15)

St. Peter's Ringers (experienced/adult handbell ensemble, meets Mondays from 7:30-8:30)

Singers and ringers of all abilities are welcome in all groups. All that is asked is a good attitude and a willingness to try. If you'd like to join a handbell ensemble, please contact Adam to determine the best place for you. More ringers are welcome in both ensembles! There is a place for you!

Thank you!

Thank you to all the musicians at St. Peter's for a fantastic Advent/Christmas season. We shared the good news of Jesus' birth with beautiful singing, joyous ringing, and hearts full of praise. Please take a moment to thank all who use their time, talent, and skills to help lead worship for these festival days.



Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends:

Forget about your New Year's resolution to exercise more this year ... that'll be toast by the weekend. And that promise to be nicer to the people driving slowly in front of you on Lititz Pike ... forget it – our roads are the playground of the Anti-Christ. If you want a legit and substantive resolution for 2019, how about this one: Resolve to deepen your relationship with God. Pick one spiritual discipline and try it out for a couple of months.

That might be more regular reading of Scripture ... start in the New Testament. If you start in Genesis you'll last till the snow starts to melt and then get stalled in Deuteronomy. Read

the Gospels of the epistles.

Or your discipline might be more regular prayer. Pray at night (it is a wonderful way to close the day) or in the morning as you rise (it is equally good to begin the day with prayer). Consider using a prayer resource as a partner in your spiritual journey. It will help to guide and focus your reflection.

Maybe try reading a Christian devotional author. Max Lucado, Frederick Buechner and Walt Wangerin are all very accessible narrative writers. Henri Nouwen will bring you deep into life and faith, if you have the mettle for it. Sometimes I don't. If you're looking for something quirky try Annie LaMott. She is as humanly devotional as they come.

Maybe your discipline will simply be a more regular commitment to worship. That is a great way to have partners in your devotional journey. And ... as you work on deepening your relationship with God, know that God is always seeking you out first, and trying to find hand-holds in your life, with which God can slowly transform you into the person God needs at work in the world.

Lastly, as you deepen your regular conversations with God, why not try asking God where you think God might want St. Peter's to seek out deeper wells of faith in our community. Are there places where we need more depth in our faith, or more expression of our faith? Are there places where we are being called to deeper engagements in the community in which we exist? Are there ministries to which you believe God is calling us? The New Year always offers us an opportunity to reflect on our lives – individual and communal – and see what new things God may be trying to craft in your life and in our lives as the people of God.

Let me know what God says to you in your reflection. Till then, I'll ...

See you in Church ...

Pastor Craig

craig@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org



A Thank-You from the Ross Family

Pastor Ross and his family extend their thanks to many of you for your prayers and well-wishes this season, along with the beautiful Christmas cards, the tasty treats, the generous gifts, and the thoughtful donations to local charities in our honor. Your support of us in this community is greatly appreciated. We all wish you blessings the remainder of the Christmas season, and a Happy New Year.

~~ Pastor Ross, Nancy, Justin & Megan, Jess & Matt



Pastor Sarah's Message

Greetings friends in Christ,

The other week I was attending a seminar for the Clergy Leadership Program (CLP) offered through Messiah College. The Clergy Leadership Program "seeks to strengthen the spiritual and social health of central Pennsylvania by identifying emerging pastoral leaders in the region and then connecting them with leaders in government, business, education, health care, community service, media, and the arts." (Quoted from their website https://www.messiah.edu/clp)

I, and 10 other clergy from various Christian denominations and backgrounds, have been part of the CLP since the Fall of 2017. Every few months we have an all-day

seminar that brings us together and engages us in the community. And after every single seminar I get home late, exhausted, but also invigorated. Through this program I have met local legislators, artists, health care leaders, and advocates. This most recent seminar brought me to places like Patriot News/Penn Live, WTIF, and WHTM/ABC27. The focus of the day was lifting up communication between the church and the media. Plus, we got to take a picture in the anchor's chair. So it was a great day had by all!



Clergy Leadership Program Cohort

During the day's meeting with various media leaders, our cohort heard a repeating refrain. Whether we were speaking to professors of communication at the college, publishers of newspapers, or media outlet executives, they all seemed to say the same thing. "It's all about relationships." They were lifting up the trusting relationship between community leaders and the media, and ways for both to work with each other, reach out to each other, and offer ways to share the 'good news.'

As I ruminated on the day, I couldn't help but think about the nature of God. God is all about relationships! Whether we are speaking about the Trinity and the way Father, Son, and Holy Spirit invite us into the dance of relationship or whether we are speaking about the relationships you share with parent, sibling, spouse, child, and friend—life in God is relationship.

God is constantly inviting us into a deeper faith relationship. How will you respond this new year?

As I made a new year's resolution to grow my relationships with fellow leaders in the community, I found myself praying about how I may grow my relationship and trust in God, friends, and family. I think the first step I plan to take is communication. I hope to email community leaders and colleagues more, I hope to strengthen old friendships with face to face visits more, I hope to have more vulnerable (and life giving) conversations with family more, and I hope to more deeply listen to God through the discipline of prayer.

It's all about relationships my friends. What relationships will you foster this new year?

Peace,

Pastor Sarah

steichmann@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org



A Heart-felt thank you

Pastor Sarah Teichmann and her family want to give thanks for the great love and care shared during the Advent and Christmas season. We give thanks for the warmth of Christ's love shared in cards, warm wishes, delicious treats, and lovely gifts. We look forward to see what God is up to in the New Year.



Letter From the Vicar

Dear Congregation,

May the Lord bless you and those you love with a Happy New Year! May God's peace and joy remain with you.

Thanks for for a wonderful half-year of internship at St. Peter's. Your attentive listening, personal sharing, feedback and hospitality have given me what I need, in order to grow and thrive here.

I'm grateful for your continued willingness to support my internship project by taking various surveys. Nearly fifty respondents described their interests and passions by answering open-ended questions. About 150 members were willing to assess their personal experience and feelings surrounding addiction.

I admire and appreciate your honest responses, and can't wait to receive the compiled results. At least in my sphere, I've experienced more openness to personal sharing. I've watched members interact and connect on different levels. Hopefully, we will continue to let down our guards, a bit at a time.

With God as our refuge and strength, I pray we may continue to inspire each other toward more transparency and deeper relationships. Transparency isn't just good business practice. Seeing clearly will help each of us notice the fact that God loves us **as** we are, for **who** we are.

God doesn't love a perfect idealized version of humanity.

God's love is not dependent upon us, but it is centered on us.

God's love is delivered through Christ, among us.

May it multiply among us through our relationships to each other, and through our engagement with the world.

Love and blessings to everyone,

Vicar Nancy nbrody@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org

The Website Is Your Friend!

At St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 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.

From the Director of Music

Seasons of Light

Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany hang together wonderfully as a unit of the church year. As Advent and December marched on, we all felt the gathering darkness as the days shortened and the nights lengthened. We pushed back this darkness by lighting extra candles, decorating our worship spaces and houses with lights, and by singing songs about awaiting the coming light.



Christmas Eve came with its abundance of light: an advent wreath full of lighted candles celebrating Jesus's birth, Christmas trees with beaming lights, and handheld candles beaming bright with Silent Night as our song. The season of Christmas ends, bringing us to the Day of Epiphany when we remember the Magi who followed the star over Bethlehem revealing Christ to the nations. The time after Epiphany is often full of references to light or of revelations. January has us celebrating Jesus's baptism, the miracle of water turned to wine at Cana, and we hear Jesus's dramatic revelation in the temple that he fulfills Isaiah's prophecies.

I love to think about how the seasons of the church match up with our experience of time on this earth. As I said earlier, December and Advent are times we feel the shortening of the days in the northern hemisphere. The farther north you are, the more dramatic this shift to darkness can be; in some places (Scandinavia, for example) the sun is completely shut out. The great Finnish Advent hymn *Lost in the Night* would have us sing:

Lost in the night do the people yet languish, longing for morning the darkness to vanquish, plaintively sighing with hearts full of anguish. Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?

Yet, we always celebrate Christmas after the Winter Solstice as we notice the days getting longer. We time our celebration of Christ, the light of the world, breaking into our world as the world itself increases in brightness. What a beautiful thought that Christ's birth actually marks the return of light to the world around us.

Of course, the cold weather continues, but the brightness also continues to increase on Epiphany and beyond. With the returning light we begin to see things more clearly and God begins to reveal the depth of his love for all of creation in the person of Jesus Christ. Baptisms, weddings, and proclamations in the place of worship can be revelatory moments where a new reality comes into being: God claims us in baptism, two become one in marriage, and Jesus is revealed to be the anointed one.

These seasons of light, Advent-Christmas-Epiphany, are uniquely tied to the goings on this time of year just as Lent and Easter are tied to new growth and rebirth. This January, notice the changes in the light with me as God continues to reveal the depths of God's love for all.

Camp Corner



Can you believe winter is a busy time at camp? Camp Directors are busy preparing for the summer with program planning, building maintenance and winter retreats! Check out these ways to be involved at camp here in the cold winter months.

January 4-6: Youth Winter Retreat (Kirchenwald)—Grades 3-6 gather and play in the snow for a weekend of fun and fellowship.

January 20: Winter Fun Day (Kirchenwald)—Youth groups and families of all ages are welcome to play in the snow at camp.

January 20: Chicken and Waffles (Nawakwa)—Dinner and winter-time fun for all ages.

February 10: Winter Fun Day (Kirchenwald)—Youth groups and families of all ages are welcome to play in the snow at camp.

Contact Joy & Lyle Hosler with any questions about camp. joy@hoslerfamily.net; 717-560-4753

Youth & Family Ministry News...

Calendar

January 6 - Food and Game Night -6:00 - 8:00 p.m. – Watch for the sign up genius for dinner donations

January 26 – Youth Sunday practice for Sr. High Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

January 27– Youth Sunday – combined traditional and New Day services at 8:00 and 10:45 in the Sanctuary.



2018 Youth Winter Retreat Dates:

February 1-3- Grades 9-12 at Camp Nawakwa – Cost: \$80.00 per person February 15-17– Grades 5-8 at Camp Kirchenwald- Cost \$80.00 per person

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

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



Senior High Retreat

Calling all senior high students to join us on a retreat on February 1-3, 2019 at Camp Kirchewald in Lebanon, PA. We will watch the 1970's rock opera, Jesus Christ Superstar, as a prompt to our discussion about the life of Jesus. As usual, we'll play some games (like Wink and Reverse Charades), take some hikes, and maybe even take part in the Capture the Flag contest that will break out. Advisors for the weekend will be Pastor Ross, Jimmy Moshos and Betsy & Mark Linn who will prepare their amazing meals for the weekend. Get your registrations in early. All 9th through 12th graders are invited.





Pastor Ross reminds 9th-12th graders that they should return their registration forms for the Confirmation/Sr. High Retreat that will be held at Camp Nawakwa on February 2-4, 2019. Please note that our ninth graders will join the rest of the Senior High's on their retreat again this year.

St. Peter's Preschool

Happy 2019 to all our St. Peter's Preschool families and friends!

We are now enrolling present students for the September, 2019 school year and will open enrollment to the public in February. Now is the time to secure a spot in one of the best preschool programs available! Tours are being conducted on a daily basis and it is so wonderful to be able to welcome new families to our school. There are so many times when we are able to welcome new church members through the doors of our preschool. We are so proud to be able to represent our growing church and to introduce new families to the joys of being a part of St. Peter's!

The Power Pack Protein Drive we sponsored in November/December was a great success! Thanks to all of those who donated to *Power Packs* which takes care of Township families in need of nutrition.

Our popular Scholastic Book Fair will be coming back to the library in mid-February. Keep an eye open for announcements regarding that special event amd as always, thank you all for your continued support.

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



ST. PETER'S KIDS!



January 6 – We will celebrate **Epiphany** on Sunday, January 6th. Sunday School classes will meet in their usual classrooms for an age appropriate lesson on Epiphany.

January 15th – Children's Ministries Committee Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at an off-site location to be determined. New Volunteers Welcome! No experience in Children's Ministry is required. Help us plan our fun special events including Santa Workshop, Santa Breakfast, Vacation Bible School and Easter Egg Hunt. Please contact Samantha to get started!





Looking Ahead: On Sunday, **February 10th** we will be holding a **First Communion Instruction** class from 12:00-2:00 p.m. A light lunch will be served for students and their parents immediately following the late service in the cafe and then we will begin the program. Following a short introduction, the children will go with Miss Samantha to their class, while the parents will meet with a member of the clergy for a question and answer session. Afterwards, all will meet

back in the sanctuary for a short service. The class is designed for children in grades 1-3, but all are welcome. The First Communion Recognition service will be held on Sunday, February 17th and February 24th. If you are interested in your child participating, please email Samantha at scuascut@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org



Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped out at the Santa Workshop and Breakfast with Santa events in December! Our volunteers are essential to the success of these events each year and their help is truly appreciated!!



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 a.m., and then at 10:15 a.m., pick up your child in the same classroom.

Age 2/3 - Nursery 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 9:15a.m. 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.

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.

Traditional Worship Assistant Schedule for January

	ACOLYTE/ CROSSBEARER *both Acolyte & Crossbearer	LECTORS	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	USHERS	BREAD & WINE PRESENTERS
January 6 8:00 a.m.	Mitchell Burkholder*	Patti Courtois	Clint Frontz Joe Weaver	Eric May, Cindy Miley, Dave Mullican, Gene Olson, Randy & Deb Shue	Mark & Melanie Burkholder
10:45 a.m.	Emily Beauregard*	Lois Miklas	Carol Esbenshade Mary Ann Frontz	Richard & Anne Wolf, Dave, Lis, David & Jessica Wolf	Rich & Ann Larrick
January 13 8:00 a.m.	Connor Lehman	Don Deibler	Randy & Debbie Shue	Mark, Melanie & Mitchell Burkholder, Mark Brandenburger, Steve & Diane Gegg	Jenn & Sara Lehman
10:45 a.m.	Nico Billoni *	Kathy Groff	Shirley Gorner, Thompson McConnell	Alan & Beverly Swanson, Robert & Shirley Gorner, Joann & Jillian Gorner	Chris & Kerry Hess
January 20 8:00 a.m.	Morgan Stuhltrager	Diane Gegg	Bret Hoffmaster Mary Jane Wilcox	Greg & Sherry Moul, Liz, Sean & Iain O'Brien, Don Wenrich	Harry Ward, Nancy Bornholm
10:45 a.m.	Jade Miller *	Jill Emmert	No Communion	Stephanie Palic, Dan Beck Russell Vollmer, Greg & Sylvia Lashley, Scott Glassford	No Communion
January 27 8:00 a.m.	Sean O'Brien	Stephanie Gerber	James Lehman Peter Murdock	Harry Ward, Tom Rothfus, Nancy Bornholm, Ena Marie Banks, Reed & Gloria Rodman	Christine Ponti, Linda Siems
10:45 a.m.	Ethan Groff *	Anneliese Owen	Mindy Rottmund Janet Roberts	Thompson, Betsy, Rory & Niamh McConnell, Joe & Cindy Geesey	Station Communion

Continued on next page

Worship Leader Coordinators

Acolyte, Crucifer, & Torch Bearer: Sylvia Lashley 872-4309 Greeters: Leigh Trayer 271-9268

Altar Guild: Betsy Linn 618-9615 Lectors: Thom McConnell 581-0068

AV Room:Bill Schlener725-2700 & Bob PrestonNursery:Patti Courtois898-1898Bread & Wine Presenter:Jennifer Lehman519-8851Ushers:Nancy Beauregard295-9814

CD & Flower Delivery: Christine Smith 299-0949 & Beth Bigler 569-7843

Communion Assistants: Karen Peiffer 569-3643 Welcome Center: Mary Ann Oberholtzer 898-7823

Traditional Worship Assistant Schedule for January (continued)

	GREETERS	WELCOME CENTER	AV/LIGHTING	NURSERY	ALTAR GUILD COORD.	ALTAR GUILD
January 6 8:00 am	George & Susan Swan	Bob & Edee Bedford	Angela Moshos	Carolyn Ruch Alyssa Kerper	Lori Weaver	Steve & Diane Gegg, Christine Ponti
10:45 am	Rich & Ann Larrick	Paul & Tricia Hough	Randy Ketchum	Amy Smith Alyssa Kerper	Lori Weaver	Jeff & Anneliese Owen
January 13 8:00 am	Tom & Pat Badorf	Shirley Dombach Susie Roderick	Terry McGuigan	Bob & Phyllis Hollinger, Alyssa Kerper	Lori Weaver	Shirley Dombach Nancy Miller
10:45 am	Craig & Lisa Rodenberger	Rich & Ann Larrick	David Wolf	Judy Fulginiti Alyssa Kerper	Lori Weaver	Lis & Anne Wolf
January 20 8:00 am	Stephen & Diane Gegg	Pam Hoffmaster Christine Ponti	Tom Chever	Mary Ann Oberholtzer, Alyssa Kerper	Lori Weaver	Greg & Cindy Gillespie
10:45 am	Jim & Jane Savidge	Stephanie Palic Peggy Popp	Bill Schlener	Karen Shreiner Alyssa Kerper	No Communion	No Communion
January 27 8:00 a.m.	Luther & Catherine Kimmich	Ron & Joan Beck	Mark Burkholder	Julie Young Alyssa Kerper	Lori Weaver	Lori Weaver
10:45 a.m.	Sara Gable Nancy Shimer	Craig & Lisa Rodenberger	Dave Tilley	Sara Deno Alyssa Kerper	Lori Weaver	Lois Vollmer Sharon Breeden

NURSERY 9:15 A.M.

January 6: Bob & Patti Courtois, Alyssa Kerper January 13: Bob & Patti Courtois, Alyssa Kerper January 20: Bob & Patti Courtois, Alyssa Kerper January 27: Bob & Patti Courtois, Alyssa Kerper.

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. Please contact Patti Courtois at pjc898@gmail.com or 717-575-6898 if you are available to volunteer 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.

NEW DAY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS — JANUARY 2019					
	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27 Combined Service	
Lector	Lynn Stover	Megan Thompson	Kris Armitage	Combined	
Communion Assistant	Jennifer Podgurski	William Sassaman	Sharon Schaefer	Combined	
Ushers	Scott & Brenna Fyfe	Dave Tilley Peter Murdock	Heath & Anna Edelman	Combined	
Altar Guild	Robin Schmincke	Emily Bromirski	Anne Fink	Combined	
A/V Sound	Scott Fyfe	Scott Fyfe	Scott Fyfe	Combined	
Coffee Bar	Catherine Stover	Sprague Family	Hosler Family	Combined	





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



January Flower Delivery Schedule

Date	Deliverer	Recipient	
01/06	Lois Benton	Millie Uhler	
	Becky Lutz	Isabell Alleman	
01/13	Nancy LeFevre	Phyllis Seitz	
	JoAnn Boltz	Bertie Miller	
01/20	Laretta Stutzman	Anna Wetzler	
	Christine Smith	Joan Groff	
01/27	Libby Stoner	Sue Mellinger	
	Christine Smith	Bob & Janet Kemp	

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.

JANUARY

LOOKING AHEAD

JANUARY CALENDAR

Tuesday, January 1

11:00 a.m. - Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner (FLC/Café)

Wednesday, January 2

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)

Thursday, January 3

11:45 p.m. - 50+ Fellowship (Cafe)

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

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

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

Friday, January 4

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

Saturday, January 5

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

10:00 a.m. - Musical Rehearsal (Music Room)

Sunday, January 6

Name Tag Sunday

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. - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

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

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

6:00 p.m. - Youth Group

Monday, January 7

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

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

5:30 p.m. - Global Missions Committee (Conference Room)

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

7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts (FLC)

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

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

Tuesday, January 8

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

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

6:30 p.m.. - Mutual Ministry (Cry Room)

7:00 p.m. - Worship Committee (Conference Room)

Wednesday, January 9

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)

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

7:00 p.m. - Property Committee (Conference Room)

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

Thursday, January 10

HERALD DEADLINE

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

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

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

7:00 p.m. - Addiction/Prevention Support (Conference Room)

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

Friday, January 11

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

Saturday, January 12

9:00 a.m. - Addiction/Prevention Support(Conference Room)

7:00 p.m. - Musical Rehearsal (Music Room)

Sunday, January 13

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

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

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

Monday, January 14

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

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

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

6:30 p.m. - Council Meeting (Conference Room)

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

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

Tuesday, January 15

1:30 p.m. - Book Club (Cry Room)

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

6:30 p.m. - Children's Ministries (Room 127)

6:30 p.m. - Intern Committee (Cry Room)

7:00 p.m. - Stewardship Committee (Conference Room)

7:00 p.m. - Long Range Planning (Cry Room)

Wednesday, January 16

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)

6:30 p.m. - Pub Theology

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

7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (FLC)

Thursday, January 17

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, January 18

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

Women's Retreat at Kirchenwald



LOOKING AHEAD

JANUARY CALENDAR continued

Sunday, January 20

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

9:15 a.m. - Canticle Choir (Music Room)

9:15 a.m. - 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 & Communion (FLC)

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

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

Monday, January 21

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, January 22

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

Wednesday, January 23

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)

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

7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (FLC)

Thursday, January 24

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

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

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

Friday, January 25

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

6:30 p.m. - Family Game Night (Family Life Center)

Saturday, January 26

10:00 a.m. - Youth Sunday Practice (Sanctuary)

Sunday, January 27

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

9:15 a.m. - Canticle Choir (Music Room)

9:15 a.m. - 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 (FLC)

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

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

1:00 p.m. - Camping Meeting (Cry Room)

Monday, January 28

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

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

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

6:45 a.m. - Tanzania Missions Committee (Conference Room)

7:00 p.m. - New Day Committee (Room 100)

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

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

Tuesday, January 29

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

6:30 p.m. - New Day Preparation

Wednesday, January 30

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)

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

7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (FLC)

Thursday, January 31

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

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

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



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.

If you have any questions, please contact me at

sshattuck@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org.

Sandy Shattuck

Editor & Parish Secretary

