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**Church Council Meeting Highlights****December 11, 2025**

- Fifteen individuals decorated the church for Christmas on the evening of November 25<sup>th</sup> followed by a time of fellowship.
- The worship service and Sunday School were cancelled on Sunday, November 30th due to no heat. Jack Rich Inc. made the repairs to the furnace.
- A period of silent meditation as the candles are extinguished at the conclusion of the worship service was reinstated on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The blanket, sweater, sweatshirt, and jacket collection will be blessed at the 7:30 pm Christmas Eve service.
- The purchase of a new Quickbooks program through TechSoup was approved.
- The first quarter 2026 Sunday School offerings will be designated to ELCA Good Gifts – health care for a child. Each \$10 collected will go towards the cost for a visit to the clinic.
- Mr. Robert Frankford's rental contract was extended to June 30, 2026.

## Committee Chairs

### ***Christian Education***

Brenda Ferrebee

### ***Discipleship***

Nancy Reichelt

### ***Fellowship***

Beverly Morgan, CC liaison; Donna Zerbe

### ***Finance***

Nancy Reichelt

### ***Property***

Vernon Strouphauer, CC liaison

### ***Social Ministry***

Lillie Morgan, CC liaison; Donna Zerbe

### ***Technology***

Nancy Reichelt

### ***Wellness***

Mary Daubert, CC liaison

### ***Worship and Music***

Barbara Hikes

### ***Youth Ministry***

Jodi Derr

### ***Endowment Fund***

Alethea Wessner

### ***Stew Zerbe Memorial***

### ***Scholarship Fund***

Donna Zerbe

### ***Cemetery Association***

Kurt Wessner 570-345-8020

### ***Council of Churches***

Dale and Brenda Ferrebee,  
CC liaisons

## Church Council Members

### 2026

Mary Daubert  
Gwen Moyer  
Nancy Reichelt  
Joshua Zimmerman

### 2027

Beverly Morgan\*  
Vernon Strouphauer\*  
Brenda Ferrebee\*  
Jodi Derr

### 2028

Stephen Hikes  
Barbara Hikes  
Dale Ferrebee\*  
Lillie Morgan\*

\*Serving second consecutive term and cannot be reelected at the end of their term.

## Officers

Stephen Hikes, President  
Dale Ferrebee, Vice President  
Jodi Derr, Secretary  
Brenda Ferrebee, Treasurer  
Lillie Morgan, Financial Secretary  
Designated Pastor: Rev. Marie Meeks

Council members are elected for a term of three years, and no more than two consecutive terms.

## Call Committee Members

|                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Bryan Reichelt, Chair | Jocelyn Hikes |
| Stephanie Graham      | Julie Koehler |
| Joshua Zimmerman      | Kurt Wessner  |

## January Worship Readings

### Sunday, January 4 Second Sunday after Christmas; Holy Communion

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14  
Gospel: John 1:[1-9] 10-18  
Psalm 147:12-20

### Sunday, January 11 Baptism of Our Lord; First Sunday after Epiphany; Holy Communion

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9  
Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43  
Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17  
Psalm 29

### Sunday, January 18 Second Sunday after Epiphany; Holy Communion

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
Gospel: John 1:29-42  
Psalm 40:1-11

### Sunday, January 25 Third Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23  
Psalm 27:1, 4-9

### Sunday School Schedule

#### The Widow

January 4<sup>th</sup>  
Creative Drama  
Barbara Hikes and Sue Strouphauer

January 11<sup>th</sup>  
Art  
Nan Hoenich and Janelle Gruber

January 18<sup>th</sup>  
Bible Skills and Games  
Nancy Reichelt and Sarah Reichelt

January 25<sup>th</sup>  
Cooking  
Brenda Ferrebee and Alex Ulsch

### St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

#### Sunday Schedule Worship Service 9:00 am

#### Holy Communion 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month

#### Sunday School 10:30 am

### Adult Sunday School

The Adult Sunday School class continues to meet in the TV room. The class is participating in a new Bible Study series from Augsburg Fortress titled *Together by Grace: Bible Conversations* **MATTHEW.**



### **St. Peter's Mission Statement**

"We, the members of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, blessed by God's grace in Word and Sacrament, and desiring to fulfill God's call to minister and witness to the world, commit ourselves to a mission which includes: Meaningful worship; Enthusiastic Christian Education programming; Active witnessing to our Christian faith; Dedicated service; and Responsible support of the programs and financial concerns of the church."

### **January Ministry Meetings**

**January 7**  
Worship and Music Committee  
6:00 PM

**January 8**  
Church Council  
7:00 PM

**January 20**  
Christian Education Committee  
6:00 PM

### **Sponsorships**

**Altar Flowers** are available for January 18 and 25 – cost is \$30

**Chancel Flowers** are available for January 18 and 25 – cost is \$30

**Sanctuary Candle** is available for January – cost is \$35

**Candle Oil** is full for January – cost is \$15

**Newsletter** is full for January – cost is \$40

**Bulletins** are available for January 4, 11, 18, and 25 – cost is \$15

**Call the church office for availability or sign the charts in the downstairs hallway.**



*The January Newsletter is given to the Glory of God IMO my mom and dad's wedding anniversary by Linda Venszl.*

### **Church Finances – End of November 2025**

November 2025 General Fund Contributions: \$13,591.00

November 2025 General Expenses paid: **\$ 8,020.00\***

\*Currently we are not paying compensation for a minister. The estimated compensation would be \$10,574.00 per month.

November 2025 Account balances:

|            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| • Checking | \$48,323.74   |
| • Savings  | \$38,616.64** |

\*\*\$5,080 is restricted use towards the Needy Fund and the Stew Zerbe Memorial Scholarship Fund.

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| • Memorial               | \$17,919.50 |
| • Capital Improvement*** | \$ 5,389.03 |

\*\*\*\$7,051 is restricted use towards Video/Audio, Prepaid Fuel, Fellowship and Parsonage Improvements.

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| • Youth Ministry | \$ 7,435.40 |
|------------------|-------------|

## MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

**(General Fund)** \$200 IMO Chester and Gladys Luckenbill by Stephen and Barbara Hikes; IMO Linda Zimmerman: \$25 by David and Jean Herring, \$50 by Pastor Bob and Nan Hoenich, \$30 by Donna Zerbe; IMO Arthur "Skip" Long: \$30 by Donna Zerbe, \$25 by BA Grot, \$25 by Stephen and Barbara Hikes; \$50 IMO Ellen Miller by Pastor Bob and Nan Hoenich; \$100 IMO the wedding anniversary of Don and Barb Schwartz on December 12<sup>th</sup>

**(Memorial Fund)** \$50 IMO what would have been our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 6<sup>th</sup> by June Reed

**(Food Pantry)** \$100 IMO Lee Wessner by Daryl, Alethea, Sophia, and Calista Wessner

## Publishing Deadlines

If you want to publish something in the Sunday bulletin or the monthly newsletter, please submit your information by the following deadlines: The bulletin deadline is Wednesday at 2:00 pm. The February 2026 newsletter deadline is January 14<sup>th</sup>.

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who are hospitalized, recuperating, ill, or in any need, especially:

Alice Hunkapiller

Paul Lengel

Ruth McMullen

Tom Wertz

Taylor Wessner

Bill Siegel

Beverly Morgan

Kerry Nagle

Bonnie Kintzel

Anna Wertz

Bessie Keefer

McKenna Morgan Cooper

Bruce Witmer

Janet Jones

Stacee Harris

Shirley Lengel

Dale Legarht

Christopher Beeman

Sue Stump

Lynn Sabadish

Dana Strouphauer

Joyce Frantz

Ray Stump

Nancy Ditzler

Eric Umbenhauer

Barbara Schwartz

Waylon Hartman

Jen Gerhardt

Elizabeth Platko

Shannon Shadle

Brian Kustan

Kelsey Cleary

Bill Schaeffer

Kerry Nagle

Tina Keefer

Janet Fidler

If you have prayer requests or info for the Sunday bulletin prayer listing, please contact the church office or Nan Hoenich at 570-345-8706.



## Church Office Hours

Monday & Thursday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM (in office)

Tuesday & Friday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (remote)

Please leave a message on the office answering machine (570-345-3306) on Tuesdays and Fridays.

## We Remember These Saints

† Arthur "Skip" Long, who passed away on December 2nd

† Lori Fehr Moyer, who passed away on December 3rd

† Cindy Seiger, who passed away on December 8<sup>th</sup>

† Janet Fisher, who passed away on December 14<sup>th</sup> (wife of Pastor Fred Fisher)

† Matthew John Manning, who passed away on December 13<sup>th</sup>

## CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

**(General Fund)** \$100 IMO loved ones by Carol Baldwin; \$100 IMO Sam Baldwin, Jr., by wife Carol Baldwin; \$500 IMO Thelma Hubler by Allen E. Hubler; \$300 IMO Edwin Stolarick, Ruth Stolarick, and Ken Stolarick by Cathy Stolarick; \$100 IMO Ken Stolarick by Sandy Stolarick; \$500 IMO Roxanne Umbenhauer by the Umbenhauer Family; \$100 IMO my husband, Leroy Strubhar, Sr., by wife Betty Strubhar; \$150 IMO our parents Kenneth and Grace Kreiser and Leroy Strubhar, Sr., by Kevin and Patti Kreiser; \$200 IMO Stew Zerbe by Donna Zerbe; \$200 IMO Gloria Harris by Donna Zerbe; \$200 IMO William Harris by Donna Zerbe; \$100 IMO our parents by David and Jean Herring; \$100 IMO loved ones by Kenny and Betty Bressler; \$100 IMO William and Gloria Harris by George and Kathy Sorokach

**(Food Pantry)** \$500 IHO the birth of Jesus by Linda Venszl and Vince Kulbitsky; \$500 IMO loved ones by Linda Venszl and Vince Kulbitsky; \$150 IMO Leo, Jean, and Neil Beck by Marty and Valerie Beck

**(Pre-Buy Oil Fund)** \$100 IMO Lew and Millie Manbeck and Ed and Ruth Stolarick by Sandy Stolarick

**(Stew Zerbe Memorial Scholarship Fund)** \$50 IHO my grandchildren James and Isabel Stormont and George Stolarick by Sandy Stolarick

**(Memorial Fund)** \$50 IMO my son Dean Wertz by Anna Wertz; \$50 IMO my husband Richard Wertz by wife Anna Wertz

The 2025 Giving Statements will be available in the fellowship hall beginning Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

The annual congregational meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 25, 2026** immediately following the worship service. Both the worship service and the meeting will take place in the fellowship hall.

In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Committee Reports

Please submit committee reports for the 2025 Annual Report to the parish secretary via email **no later than Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Offering Envelopes**

The 2026 offering envelopes are available in the fellowship hall. Please see our financial secretary Lillie Morgan if you would like to receive envelopes but don't see them with the boxes in the fellowship hall.



QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING

### **St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery Association has lots available**

If interested, please contact Kurt Wessner at (570) 345-8020

#### **Members of St. Peter's**

**4 grave lot \$800**

**2 grave lot \$600**

**1 grave lot \$400**

#### **Non Members of St. Peter's**

**4 grave lot \$1000**

**2 grave lot \$800**

**1 grave lot \$600**

**Page 8** See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” *Isaiah 43:19*

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## ADVENT WREATH MAKING

Advent wreaths were made during the November 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday School hour.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS PARTY

Jesus's Birthday Party was celebrated on December 21<sup>st</sup> during the Sunday School hour.



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

January 2026

|   |                                    |  |  |  |   |   |  |
|---|------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|--|
|   |                                    |  |  |  | 1<br>Office Closed<br><br>HAPPY NEW YEAR! | 2   | 3<br>8:30 am – 12:00 pm<br>Music Lessons |
| 4<br>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; Second Sunday of Christmas; Needy Fund Collection<br><br>Pastor Mindy Heppe<br>10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class       | 5<br>4:15 – 6:15 pm Music Lessons  | 6<br>4:15 – 5:45 pm Music Lessons<br>Senior Citizens   | 7<br>6:00 pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting<br>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal<br>8:00 – 8:45 pm Music Lessons | 8<br>4:15-9:00 pm Music Lessons<br>7:00 Church Council Meeting | 9   | 10<br>8:30 am – 12:00 pm<br>Music Lessons |  |
| 11<br>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; Baptism of Our Lord; First Sunday after Epiphany<br><br>Pastor Bob Hoenich<br>10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class       | 12<br>4:15 – 6:15 pm Music Lessons | 13<br>4:15 – 5:45 pm Music Lessons   | 14<br>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal<br>8:00 – 8:45 pm Music Lessons<br><br>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE                    | 15<br>4:15 – 9:00 pm Music Lessons                             | 16  | 17<br>8:30 am – 12:00 pm<br>Music Lessons |  |
| 18<br>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; Second Sunday after Epiphany<br><br>Pastor Linda Bonfiglio<br>10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class                       | 19<br>4:15 – 6:15 pm Music Lessons | 20<br>4:15 – 5:45 pm Music Lessons<br>6:00 pm Christian Education Committee Meeting<br>Senior Citizens | 21<br>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal<br>8:00 – 8:45 pm Music Lessons   | 22<br>4:15 – 9:00 pm Music Lessons                             | 23  | 24<br>8:30 am – 12:00 pm<br>Music Lessons |  |
| 25<br>9:00 am Worship Service; Third Sunday after Epiphany; Video Sermon<br>Annual Congregational Meeting<br>10:00 am Coffee Social<br>10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class | 26<br>4:15 – 6:15 pm Music Lessons | 27<br>4:15 – 5:45 pm Music Lessons   | 28<br>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal<br>8:00 – 8:45 pm Music Lessons   | 29<br>4:15 – 9:00 pm Music Lessons                             | 30  | 31<br>8:30 am – 12:00 pm<br>Music Lessons |  |

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