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Easter Egg Hunt

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Saturday, April 4, 2026 beginning at 11:00 a.m.
For children up to age 12

Come join us for crafts, music, & the Easter Story. Light lunch and refreshments will be served. All children from the community are welcome to attend.



Committee Chairs

Christian Education
Brenda Ferrebee

Discipleship
Nancy Reichelt

Fellowship
Beverly Morgan, CC liaison;
Donna Zerbe

Finance
Nancy Reichelt

Property
Vernon Stroupbauer, 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 Meeting Highlights

February 9, 2026

Election of Church Council Officers

President - Stephen Hikes

Vice President - Dale Ferrebee

Secretary - Jodi Derr

Treasurer - Brenda Ferrebee

Financial Secretary - Lillie Morgan

APPROVED:

- Expenditures for Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2026
- Hall rentals for March 7 and April 25
- Mr. Frankford's student recital for March 1st at 2:00 pm in the fellowship hall with an inclement weather date of March 8th
- Scheduling of Saturday worship service if inclement weather is anticipated for Sunday morning service
- Inclusion of parsonage and garage in exterminator's contract

Church Council Members

2027

2028

2029

Beverly Morgan*

Stephen Hikes

Mary Daubert*

Vernon Stroupbauer*

Barbara Hikes

Andrew Hikes

Brenda Ferrebee*

Dale Ferrebee*

Nancy Reichelt*

Jodi Derr

Lillie Morgan*

Joshua Zimmerman*

*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

March Worship Readings

Sunday, March 1

Second Sunday in Lent; Holy Communion

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Gospel: John 3:1-17

Psalms 121

Sunday, March 8

Third Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-11

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Psalms 95

Sunday, March 15

Fourth Sunday in Lent; Holy Communion

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41

Psalms 23

Sunday, March 22

Fifth Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11

Gospel: John 11:1-45

Psalms 130

Sunday, March 29

Sunday of the Passion; Palm Sunday; Holy Communion

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66

Psalms 31:9-16



Sunday School Schedule

Jesus and John the Baptist

March 1st

Science

Gwen Moyer and Alethea Wessner

March 8th

Bible Skills and Games

Nancy Reichelt and Sarah

Reichelt

March 15th

Cooking

Brenda Ferree, Alex Ulsh, and

Terri Cleary

March 22nd

Video

Jodi Derr and Jessica Geary

March 29th

Palm Sunday Program

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday Schedule

Worship Service

9:00 am

Holy Communion

1st & 3rd

Sundays of the month

Sunday School

10:30 am

Adult Sunday School

The Adult Sunday School class continues to meet in the TV room. For the next several weeks the class is studying *Law and Gospel* by Korey Maas.

Parents and their children met on Sunday, February 15, 2026, to discuss and prepare their children for **First Holy Communion**. The following dates were determined for their classes. We are asking that a parent stay with their child during the classes. This is a valuable refresher for parents. The classes will be held in the catechetical classroom.

- First Class- Old Testament- **Sunday, March 8, 2026 at 11:30 AM**
- Second Class - New Testament - **Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 11:30 AM**
- Third Class - Meaning of the Lord's Supper; preparation and baking of unleavened bread - **Saturday, May 30, 2026 at 10:00 AM**
- **First Holy Communion- Sunday, May 31, 2026**

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to discuss them with Pastor Bob Hoenich or Brenda Ferree. If you have a child in second grade or older who hasn't received First Holy Communion instruction, and didn't attend the meeting, please contact the church office at 570-345-3306.

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."

March Ministry Meetings

March 4
Worship and Music Committee
5:45 PM

March 12
Church Council
7:00 PM

March 17
Christian Education Committee
6:00 PM

Sponsorships

Altar Flowers are available March 1, 8, and 15 – cost is \$30

Chancel Flowers are available for March 1, 8, 15, and 22 – cost is \$30

Sanctuary Candle is available for March – cost is \$35

Candle Oil is available for March – cost is \$15

Newsletter is full for March – cost is \$40

Bulletins are available for March 1, 15, and 29 – cost is \$15

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



The March Newsletter is given to the Glory of God IHO our dad, Harvey Hubler, for his 93rd birthday by Al and Laine.

Church Finances as of January 31, 2026

January 2026 General Fund Contributions	\$12,724.00	(3 weeks of offerings)
January 2026 Restricted Funds Contributions	\$ 2,283.00*	
Balance for General Expenses	\$ 10,441.00	
January 2026 General Fund Expenses	\$ 13,806.00	
Deficit balance	\$ 3,365.00	
Reminder that we are not currently paying compensation / salary for a pastor.		
January account balances:	General Checking	\$61,129.01
	General Savings	\$38,364.26
	Subtotal	\$ 99,493.27
	*Restricted Savings	\$ 9,126.69
		\$108,619.96
January Memorial Fund - Checking	\$17,526.53	
January Capital Improvement Fund - Checking	\$ 7,574.03	
	*Restricted Funds	\$ 5,262.01
	Account Balance	\$12,836.04

*All funds listed as restricted cannot be used for any purpose other than what the giver donated them for. We have restricted funds for the Food Pantry, Needy Fund, Stew Zerbe Memorial Scholarship, Video/Audio, Prepaid Fuel, Fellowship, Parish House (Parsonage) Improvements.

Youth Ministry \$7,824.67

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

(General Fund) \$75 IMO Thelma Adams by John and Jeanette Frantz; \$100 IMO Timothy Weckle by Patricia Weckle and Sandra Kemmerling; \$100 IMO Sam Baldwin by wife Carol
(Pre-Buy Oil Fund) \$100 IMO my mother, Sybilla Gilbert for her birthday by Charles Gilbert
(Sunday School) \$50 IHO the baptism of Rhys Paul Herring by parents Jacob and Shannon and siblings Cole, Scarlett, and Ana; \$50 IHO the baptism of our son Wesley Malcolm Wissinger by Owen Wissinger and Angel Venzl

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 April 2026 newsletter deadline is Wednesday, March 11th.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Brian Bender | Bruce Witmer | Eric Umbenhauer |
| Paul Lengel | Janet Jones | Barbara Schwartz |
| Ruth McMullen | Stacey Harris | Waylon Hartman |
| Tom Wertz | Shirley Lengel | Jen Gerhardt |
| Taylor Wessner | Dale Legarht | Elizabeth Platko |
| Bill Siegel | Christopher Beeman | Shannon Shadle |
| Beverly Morgan | Sue Stump | Brian Kustan |
| Kerry Nagle | Lynn Sabadish | Kelsey Cleary |
| Bonnie Kintzel | Dana Strouphauer | Bill Schaeffer |
| Anna Wertz | Joyce Frantz | Kerry Nagle |
| Bessie Keefer | Ray Stump | Tina Keefer |
| McKenna Morgan Cooper | Nancy Ditzler | Janet Fidler |
| Ed Trout | Scott Umberger | Charles "Hack" Umbenhauer |

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.

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.



Food Pantry Report

Thank you for your support of the ministry that happens in and through the Food Pantry.

A Food Pantry distribution will have taken place the last week of February to assist families with dealing with the increased cost of heating their homes this harsh winter.

We continue to distribute the winter clothing and blankets that were gifted by you during the Christmas season. They will have been made available also during our February food distribution.

Food Pantry/Easter food basket offering envelopes will be made available in March to assist with the next Food Pantry distribution which is planned for the Easter season!



QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING

Thank you to all who donated cans of soup for the Souper Bowl of Caring. As of Sunday, February 15th, 32 cans of soup have been donated.



Pour blessings upon those in need. Food pantry items for the month of March include:

- ♣ Instant Mashed Potatoes
- ♣ Mixed Vegetables
- ♣ Beans
- ♣ Canned Meats

Proverbs 19:17: "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed."

Covered Dish and Movie Night

Saturday, March 14th
Covered Dish at 5:00 PM
Movie at 6:00 PM

Movie will be *Facing the Giants*.
Join us for a night of fellowship.

Music Recital

Mr. Frankford's students will be presenting a recital on Sunday, March 1st at 2:00 pm here at St. Peter's.

In the event of inclement weather on March 1st, the recital will be held on Sunday, March 8th at 2:00 pm.



2026 Community Lenten Services

St. John's Lutheran Church
222 South Tulpehocken Street
Pine Grove, PA

March 4, 11, 18, and 25
Midweek Lenten Services
2:00 PM

These services will center on our five senses as a way of exploring the significance of Christ's incarnation throughout our Lenten journey. We all are made in the image of God, who chose to share our humanity of joining in our embodied experience. God's image in us is beautifully diverse.

7:00 PM

The evening midweek services will center on the *Holden Evening Prayer*. The worship service will include a journey of Christ's life and teachings through scripture passages and pictures of the Holy Land.

HOLY WEEK

April 2 – Maundy Thursday
2:00 PM and 7:00 PM

Both services will include Holy Communion.

April 3 – Good Friday
2:00 PM

The service will include the reading of the Passion according to John's Gospel.

7:00 PM Tenebrae Service

Baptism

January 11th



Rhys Paul Herring,
son of Jacob Herring
and Shannon Shughart

Baptism

February 15th



Wesley Malcolm
Wissinger, son of
Owen Wissinger and
Angel Venzl

Inclement Weather Schedules

In January of 2026, an inclement weather delay schedule was created with Sunday School and the catechetical class beginning at 10:30 am and the worship service at 11:45 am. **In addition**, if it is deemed necessary to cancel the Sunday morning worship service due to anticipated inclement weather, a Saturday worship service will be offered, time to be determined. Emails will be sent to those who have provided email addresses and telephone calls will be made to those without an email address. Notice of the schedule change will also be posted on the church's Facebook page. Please notify the church office if you have a new email address or telephone number.

Birth

Congratulations to
Michael and Lauren
Murphy on the birth of
their daughter
Bethany Florence, who
was born on December
21st, 2025.



Sunday School Palm Sunday Program

We are pleased to announce the return of our annual Sunday School Palm Sunday program. It will be held on Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026, during the Sunday School hour.

We invite parents to bring their child/children to Sunday School every Sunday in March. We will be preparing for the program the last 15 minutes of Sunday School. Please note that our practices may extend slightly past 11:30 am.

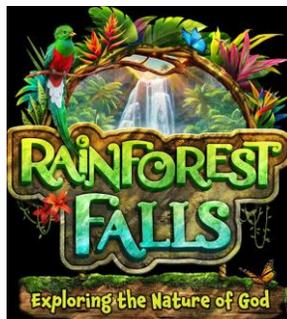
If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with the Sunday School staff or any member of the Christian Education committee.



Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2026

We are planning a Vacation Bible School (VBS) for this summer with an open invitation to the community. It will be held July 12 – 16 from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM here at St. Peter's. The theme is *Rainforest Falls*.

We are looking for teachers and volunteers. Please speak to any member of the Christian Education committee or call the church and we will reach out to you.



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 2026

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; Second Sunday in Lent; Needy Fund Collection</p> <p>Pastor Mindy Heppe</p> <p>10:30 Sunday School; Catechetical Class</p> <p>2:00 pm Music Recital</p>	<p>4:15 – 5:30 pm Music Lessons</p>	<p>4:15 – 5:45 pm Music Lessons</p>	<p>5:45 pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting</p> <p>2:00 and 7:00 pm Lenten Services at St. John's</p> <p>7:30 – 8:15 pm Music Lessons</p>	<p>4:15-9:15 pm Music Lessons</p> <p>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>		<p>8:00 am – 12:15 pm Music Lessons</p> <p>10:00 am -5:00 pm Hall Rental</p>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<p>9:00 am Worship Service; Third Sunday in Lent</p> <p>Donna Stokes</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class</p> <p>11:30 am First Holy Communion Class</p> <p>2:00 pm Music Recital</p> <p>Postponement Date</p>	<p>4:15 – 5:30 pm Music Lessons</p>	<p>4:15 – 5:45 pm Music Lessons</p> <p>Senior Citizens</p>	<p>2:00 and 7:00 pm Lenten Services at St. John's</p> <p>7:30 – 8:15 pm Music Lessons</p> <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>4:15-9:15 pm Music Lessons</p> <p>6:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 pm Church Council Meeting</p>		<p>8:00 am – 12:15 pm Music Lessons</p> <p>5:00 pm Covered Dish</p> <p>6:00 pm Movie: <i>Facing the Giants</i></p>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<p>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; Fourth Sunday in Lent</p> <p>Pastor Carey Miller</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class</p>	<p>4:15 – 5:30 pm Music Lessons</p>	<p>4:15 – 5:45 pm Music Lessons</p> <p>6:00 pm Christian Education Committee Meeting</p>	<p>2:00 and 7:00 pm Lenten Services at St. John's</p> <p>7:30 – 8:15 pm Music Lessons</p>	<p>4:15 –9:15 pm Music Lessons</p> <p>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>		<p>8:00 am – 12:15 pm Music Lessons</p>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p>9:00 am Worship Service; Fifth Sunday in Lent</p> <p>Pastor Bob Hoenich</p> <p>10:00 am Coffee Social</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class</p>	<p>4:15 – 5:30 pm Music Lessons</p>	<p>4:15 – 5:45 pm Music Lessons</p> <p>Senior Citizens</p>	<p>2:00 and 7:00 pm Lenten Services at St. John's</p> <p>7:30 – 8:15 pm Music Lessons</p>	<p>4:15 –9:15 pm Music Lessons</p> <p>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>		<p>8:00 am – 12:15 pm Music Lessons</p>
29	31					
<p>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; Sunday of the Passion; Palm Sunday; Needy Fund Collection</p> <p>Pastor Linda Bonfiglio</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School Palm Sunday Program; Catechetical Class</p>	<p>4:15 – 5:30 pm Music Lessons</p>					

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