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Designated Pastor's Letter

Ah yes, the fall season has arrived! And with it the beginning of holidays both secular and faith based. We have just had Halloween, with trunk or treat gatherings at many churches and firehouses, Halloween parties, and watching scary movies. Next is Thanksgiving this month, when we express gratitude for abundant harvests, and get together for dinner and football.

At this time of the year we need remember those who will not look forward for these holidays without our help, loving and serving others, particularly the needy, and performing these acts with a cheerful, selfless heart, rather than for show or personal gain. Jesus taught that giving to the poor and sick is a way to serve Him directly, and that such selfless actions, done in secret, will be rewarded by God.

Pastor Marie



New online giving option – scan with camera and touch yellow bar

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

October 9, 2025

- Pastor Ken Melber, Jr., Secretary of the NEPA Synod and an Associate of the Bishop, attended the meeting to provide an update on the call process.
- The congregation will be updated on the call process during a Sunday morning worship service. Date to be determined.
- The church's exterior doors have been numbered for emergency responders to locate a specific point of entry.
- The church will be decorated for Christmas on Tuesday, November 25th beginning at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited for an evening of decorating and fellowship.
- December 14 – Sunday School Christmas program

Church Council Members

2026

Mary Daubert
Gwen Moyer
Nancy Reichelt
Joshua Zimmerman

2027

Beverly Morgan*
Vernon Stroupbauer*
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

November Worship Readings

Sunday, November 2

21st Sunday after Pentecost; Holy Communion; All Saints Sunday

First Reading: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Second: Ephesians 1:11-23

Gospel: Luke 6:20-31

Psalm 149

Sunday, November 9

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Job 19:23-27a

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5,
13-17

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

Psalm 17:1-9

Sunday, November 16

23rd Sunday after Pentecost; Holy Communion

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

Psalm 98

Sunday, November 23

Last Sunday after Pentecost; Holy Communion; Christ the King Sunday

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Second Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

Psalm 46

Sunday, November 30

First Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Psalm 122

Sunday School Schedule

Walking on Water

November 2

Bible Skills and Games

Nancy Reichelt and Sarah Reichelt

November 9

Science

Gwen Moyer and Alethea Wessner

November 16

Advent Wreaths

Advent and Christmas

November 23

Christmas Ornaments

Janelle Gruber

November 30

Angel's Visit

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 Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday Schedule

Worship Service

9:00 am

Holy Communion

1st & 3rd

Sundays of the month

Sunday School

10:30 am

Please Join Us for a Decorating Party

On Tuesday, November 25th, beginning at 6:00 pm, we will decorate the church for Christmas and then have some snacks, music, games and fellowship. Let's kick off the holiday season with joy and thanksgiving!



50th Anniversary Celebration

Commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the 1975 confirmands
Sunday, November 9th



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."

November Ministry Meeting

November 13
Church Council
7:00 PM

Please return your completed **Time and Talent Commitment Form** in the offering plate or to the church office as soon as possible. Forms are available in the office and narthex.

Sponsorships

Altar Flowers are available for November 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 – cost is \$30

Chancel Flowers are available for November 9, 16, 23, and 30 – cost is \$30

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

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

Newsletter is full for November – cost is \$40

Bulletins are available for November 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 – cost is \$15

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



The November Newsletter is given to the Glory of God IMO my grandparents by Linda Venzl.

Church Finances – End of September 2025

September 2025 General Fund Contributions:

\$11,521.00 (after designated funds are distributed)

September 2025 General Expenses paid: **\$ 5,597 ***

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

September 2025 Account balances:

- Checking \$42,406.86
- Savings** \$41,877.61

**\$4,271.63 is designated towards the Needy Fund and the Stew Zerbe Memorial Scholarship Fund

- Memorial Fund \$15,930.92
- Capital Improvement Fund*** \$11,355.03

***\$6,681 is designated to Video/Audio, Prepaid Fuel, Fellowship and Parsonage Improvements. \$4,674.03 is designated for Capital Improvement

Youth Ministry \$ 7,686.35

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

(General Fund) \$200 IMO Thelma Hubler by daughter Elaine Quinn;
IMO Lee Wessner: \$100 by Pastor Bob and Nan Hoenich, \$50 by Dr.
Scott and Carol Winston

(Memorial Fund) \$100 IMO Francis and Betty Androshick's 70th
anniversary by Ray and Janeen Stump

(Food Pantry) \$200 IHO our grandchildren Keegan, Livvy, and Josie
Kreiser and Noelle Beaver by Marty and Valerie Beck

(Capital Improvement Fund) \$480 in celebration of my parents'
wedding anniversary by Rachel Hikes-Sandhu

(Pre-Buy Oil Fund) \$150 IMO Kevin K. Krause, Ryan Lemke, and
Samantha Lengel by Gary and Mary Bohr

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

Alice Hunkapiller	Bruce Witmer	Eric Umbenhauer
Paul Lengel	Janet Jones	Barbara Schwartz
Ruth McMullen	Stacey Harris	Waylon Hartman
Tom Wertz	Shirley Lengel	Jen Gerhardt
Janet Fisher	Dale Legarht	Elizabeth Platko
Bill Siegel	Christopher Beeman	Shannon Shadle
Beverly Morgan	Sue Stump	Brian Kustan
Lori Fehr Moyer	Lynn Sabadish	Kelsey Cleary
Bonnie Kintzel	Dana Stroupbauer	Bill Schaeffer
Anna Wertz	Joyce Frantz	Linda Zimmerman
Bessie Keefer	Ray Stump	Tina Keefer
McKenna Morgan Cooper	Nancy Ditzler	Janet Fidler
Taylor Wessner		

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.

We Remember These Saints

- † Lee Wessner who passed away
on September 27th
- † Bernice Wetzel who passed away
on October 13th



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 2025 December
newsletter deadline is
November 12th.

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.

All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday will be observed
on Sunday, November 2nd during
our worship service. All members
who have passed away in the past
year will be remembered. If there is
anyone you would like to have
remembered during this service,
please call the church office at 570-
345-3306 by Wednesday, October
29th.



Food Pantry

Our pantry distributed three bags of groceries, two bags of perishable foods, and our homemade soups (made by our youth group) on Wednesday, September 24th, Thursday, September 25th, Sunday, September 28th, and days after to 30+ households. Our volunteers delivered to ten of those households.

We thank you for your generosity of time and resources. Our Harvest Home monetary gifts and gifts of food helped bolster the amount of food we could deliver to people in need. Monetary gifts included \$1,500 from our church's offerings designated for the food pantry as well as a \$250 Thrivent grants. Thirteen volunteers helped, amounting to 43 hours of time. Our next distribution will be happening on Thanksgiving weekend. Please keep this outreach ministry in your prayers.



Youth Ministry Events

On Sunday, September 21st, four adults and five youth worked all afternoon making 90 quarts total of chicken potpie and vegetable soup which, in the following weeks, were taken to several members (seniors and some with health issues) as well as distributed at the food pantry on September 24th, September 25th, September 28th, and weeks following.



On Sunday, October 5th, after the Sunday School hour, our youth group met for a wonderful lunch prayed over by our youngest attendee, a 7-year-old. After seven adults and four youth partook of macaroni and cheese, Sloppy Joe sandwiches, pretzels, pumpkin rolls, and gummy candies, we ventured onto a Swatara Creek trail above Lickdale. We began the walk in prayer, thanking God for the beautiful creation we were about to experience.

On that warm, early fall adventure of a 2.2 mile walk of conversation, exercise, and enjoying each other's company, we were greatly appreciative of our time spent together. Three adults and four youth completed the walk, ranging in age from seven to 78. We hope that you might join us for our next walk.

Birth

*Congratulations to Jacob
Herring and Shannon
Shughart on the birth of their
son Rhys Paul Herring, who
was born on September 18th.*



Birth

*Congratulations to Jeff and
Madison (Beck) Beaver on the
birth of their daughter Noelle
Marie Beaver, who was born
on October 9th.*



Baptism

October 19th

*Jake Allen Zimmerman, son of
Joshua and Janelle Zimmerman*



*Christmas Eve
Candlelight Services
With Holy Communion*

4:00 pm

7:30 pm



**Sunday School Christmas Program
Sunday, December 14th at 10:30 am**

We are thrilled to announce the return of our annual Sunday School Christmas program after a six-year hiatus!

To make this year's program unforgettable, we encourage parents/guardians to bring their child/children to Sunday School every Sunday in November as we work together in preparation for the program. 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.



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

November 2025

2	3	4	5	6	7	1 8
9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; 21 st Sunday after Pentecost; All Saints Sunday; Needy Fund Collection; Call Process Update Pastor Mindy Heppe 10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class	4:15 - 5:30 pm Music Lessons	4:15 - 5:45 pm Music Lessons	7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal			8:30 am – 12:15 pm <u>Music Lessons</u> 9:30 am – 12:15 pm Music Lessons
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:00 am Worship Service; 22 nd Sunday after Pentecost; Celebration of 50-year Confirmands Pastor Ken Melber, Jr. 10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class	4:15 - 5:30 pm Music Lessons	4:15 - 5:45 pm Music Lessons Senior Citizens	7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	6:00 pm Endowment Committee Meeting 7:00 Church Council Meeting		8:30 am – 12:15 pm Music Lessons
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; 23 rd Sunday after Pentecost Pastor Raymond Hand 10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class	4:15 - 5:30 pm Music Lessons	4:15 - 5:45 pm Music Lessons	7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal	4:15 - 9:00 pm Music Lessons		8:30 am – 12:15 pm Music Lessons
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; Last Sunday after Pentecost; Christ the King Sunday Pastor Linda Bonfiglio 10:00 am Coffee Social 10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class	4:15 - 5:30 pm Music Lessons	4:15 - 5:45 pm Music Lessons 6:00 pm Christmas Decorating Party	7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal	Office Closed HAPPY THANKSGIVING		8:30 am – 12:15 pm Music Lessons
30						
9:00 am Worship Service; First Sunday of Advent; Needy Fund Collection Donna Stokes 10:30 am Sunday School; Catechetical Class						

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM 2025

_____ Red or White 5" 3-4 Blooms - \$10.00

_____ Red or White 6 ½" 5-plus Blooms - \$15.00

_____ Red or White 8 ½" 12-15 Blooms 3 branched -\$32.00

Poinsettias come in choice of red or white and are foiled. Please circle color choice.

IMO (in memory of):

IHO (in honor of):

BY: _____

Envelope # _____

AMOUNT PAID _____ () Check () Cash

Please submit orders with payment to the church office or place in the offering plate by Monday, November 17th.