

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

|                                            |        |
|--------------------------------------------|--------|
| Pastor's Greeting                          | 2      |
| Pastor's Greeting (continued)              | 3      |
| Committee Chairs                           | 3      |
| Youth Ministries Trip                      | 3      |
| November Worship Readings                  | 4      |
| St. Peter's Schedule                       | 4      |
| Sunday School Schedule                     | 4      |
| Adult Sunday School                        | 4      |
| Confirmation Class                         | 4      |
| Grief Share                                | 4      |
| 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration | 4      |
| Sponsorships                               | 5      |
| Church Finances                            | 5      |
| November Ministry Meetings                 | 5      |
| St. Peter's Mission Statement              | 5      |
| Time and Talent Form                       | 5      |
| Remember in Your Prayers                   | 6      |
| Publishing Deadlines                       | 6      |
| Memorials and Gifts                        | 6      |
| We Remember These Saints                   | 6      |
| All Saints Sunday                          | 6      |
| Church Office Hours                        | 6      |
| Food Pantry                                | 7      |
| QR Code for Online Giving                  | 7      |
| Attention High School Seniors              | 7      |
| Jerusalem Concert                          | 7      |
| Youth Group Events                         | 7      |
| Game Night                                 | 7      |
| Blessing of the Animals                    | 8      |
| Harvest Home                               | 8      |
| Committee Reports                          | 9      |
| Church Council Meeting Highlights          | 9      |
| Church Council Members & Officers          | 9      |
| Advent Candle Lighting                     | 10     |
| Christmas Cantata                          | 10     |
| Christmas Eve Services                     | 10     |
| Sunday School Christmas Program            | 10     |
| Pictorial Directory                        | 10     |
| Blanket Collection                         | 10     |
| Potluck and Christmas Decorating           | 10     |
| November Calendar                          | 11     |
| Poinsettia Order Form                      | Insert |



Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*<sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:15-17*

Many years ago, I taught a Bible Study called "The Attitude of Gratitude". In the Bible Study we learned how Scripture calls us in all we do, to do so with a thankful and grateful heart. November is the month where our thoughts in particular turn to thankfulness as we celebrate our National Day of Thanksgiving.

But as a church, we are always thankful, and on November 1<sup>st</sup>, we will give thanks for the lives of those who left us this past year during our All-Saints Sunday worship. I hope you can be there with us as we give thanks for all these loved ones.

Blessings,

Pastor Mike

### Continuing/Looking forward:

- Our last Bible Study at O'Neal's Pub will be on Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. I hope you can join us. I will offer a Bible Study at the Church in Spring.
- If you receive this newsletter before Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, remember to wear Red as we celebrate Reformation Sunday and confirm our 3<sup>rd</sup> year confirmands.
- October 31<sup>st</sup> – Trunk N Treat here at St. Peter's (see newsletter for more details)
- Sunday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> – Join us as we remember those who have entered God's Kingdom during our All-Saints Sunday Service.

## 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

### Pastor's Greeting (*continued*)

- I will be away from Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> through Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> as one part is vacation, and another part is continuing education. In case of an emergency while I am gone, please contact the church office, Lillie, or Steve Hikes. There will be a pastor covering emergencies.
- Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Caroling (See Newsletter for more information)
- The Children's Christmas Program will be held Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> during the Church Service. Immediately after the program we will go downstairs to the fellowship hall and celebrate Jesus' birthday with a party, food, and fellowship.
- The Christmas Cantata will be held Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> during the Church Service.
- Christmas Eve Services will be held at 4:00 and 8:00 PM.
- Monday January 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday January 5<sup>th</sup> will be picture taking days for our new Church Directory. You will receive more information about this very soon. Please plan on taking part. All members will receive a free copy of the directory.

Blessings to all of you,

Pastor Mike



## November Worship Readings

**Sunday, November 1**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Holy Communion; All Saints Sunday**  
 First Reading: Revelation 7:9-17  
 Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3  
 Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12  
 Psalm 34:1-10, 22

**Sunday, November 8**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
 First Reading: Amos 5:18-24  
 Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
 Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13  
 Psalm 70

**Sunday, November 15**  
**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Holy Communion**  
 First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18  
 Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
 Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30  
 Psalm 90:1-8, [9-11] 12

**Sunday, November 22**  
**Last Sunday after Pentecost; Holy Communion; Christ the King Sunday**  
 First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  
 Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23  
 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46  
 Psalm 95:1-7a

**Sunday, November 29**  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
 First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9  
 Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
 Gospel: Mark 13:24-37  
 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

### ***Sunday School Schedule***

#### **The Good Samaritan**

November 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Science  
 Gwen Moyer and Alethea Wessner

#### **Mary and Martha**

November 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Creative Drama  
 Barbara Hikes and Sue Stroupauer

November 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Art  
 Nan Hoenich and Janelle Gruber

November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Bible Skills and Games  
 Jodi Derr and Jessica Geary

November 29<sup>th</sup>  
 Cooking  
 Alex Ulsh and Terri Cleary

### **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 the lessons in *Explore the Bible: Joshua, Judges, and Ruth*. The current topic is Judges.



Grief Share continues its sessions on Mondays at 7:00 pm and will last for 13 weeks. Please contact Nancy Reichelt for more information.

### **Confirmation Class**

continues on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am.  
**REMINDER:** There will be no confirmation classes on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup> while Pastor Mike is on vacation.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration**

On Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1976 confirmands during the worship service. A time of fellowship will follow the service.



### **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 Meetings**

**November 5<sup>th</sup>**  
Worship and Music  
Committee  
6:00 PM

**November 5<sup>th</sup>**  
Church Council  
7:00 PM

**November 11th**  
Christian Education  
Committee  
6:00 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 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 – cost is \$30

**Chancel Flowers** are available for November 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 – 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 1 and 29– 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 loved ones by Gary and Kathy Toy.

### ***Church Finances as of September 30, 2026***

|                                              |                |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| September 2026 General Fund Contributions    | \$12,282.83    |
| September 2026 Restricted Fund Contributions | \$ 1,036.72    |
| Balance for General Expenses                 | \$11,246.11    |
| September 2026 General Fund Expenses         | \$18,737.27    |
| Balance                                      | ( \$ 7,491.16) |
| September Account Balances                   |                |
| General Checking                             | \$76,103.31    |
| General Savings                              | \$61,366.16    |
| Subtotal                                     | \$137,469.47   |
| Restricted Savings                           | (\$15,924.70)  |
| General Balance                              | \$121,544.77   |
| Memorial Fund Checking                       | \$20,353.44    |
| Capital Improvement Fund Checking            | \$ 3,961.03    |
| Restricted Funds                             | \$ 2,161.00    |
| Balance                                      | \$ 6,122.03    |
| Youth Ministry Fund                          | \$ 7,815.46    |

## MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

**(General Fund)** \$100 IMO Sam Baldwin by wife Carol; IMO Gail Elizabeth Wilder: \$100 by sister Donna Stokes and family, \$270 by the Stokes and Sanders family; \$100 IMO Leroy Strubhar by Betty Strubhar  
**(Memorial Fund)** \$750 IMO my parents, Paul W. Lengel and Thelma I. Lengel and \$500 IMO wife Catherine, son Robert, and granddaughter Samantha by Howard Lengel and children; \$500 IHO children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and Shirley by Howard Lengel  
**(Stew Zerbe Memorial Scholarship Fund)** \$490 in celebration of my parents' 49<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by Rachel Hikes-Sandhu

## 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 December 2026 newsletter deadline is Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>.

## *REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS*

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

|                               |                           |                         |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Brian Bender</b>           | <b>Bruce Witmer</b>       | <b>Shirley Moyer</b>    |
| <b>Paul Lengel</b>            | <b>Janet Jones</b>        | <b>Barbara Schwartz</b> |
| <b>Ruth McMullen</b>          | <b>Stacey Harris</b>      | <b>Waylon Hartman</b>   |
| <b>Shirley Lengel</b>         | <b>Jen Gerhardt</b>       | <b>Derrick McCann</b>   |
| <b>Taylor Wessner</b>         | <b>Darlene Eckler</b>     | <b>Cindy Siegel</b>     |
| <b>Bill Siegel</b>            | <b>Christopher Beeman</b> | <b>Shannon Shadle</b>   |
| <b>Beverly Morgan</b>         | <b>Sue Stump</b>          | <b>Brian Kustan</b>     |
| <b>Kerry Nagle</b>            | <b>Lynn Sabadish</b>      | <b>Danette Wolfe</b>    |
| <b>Bonnie Kintzel</b>         | <b>Dana Stroupauer</b>    | <b>Bill Schaeffer</b>   |
| <b>Anna Wertz</b>             | <b>Joyce Frantz</b>       | <b>Kerry Nagle</b>      |
| <b>Bessie Keefer</b>          | <b>Ray Stump</b>          | <b>Tina Keefer</b>      |
| <b>McKenna Morgan Cooper</b>  | <b>Nancy Ditzler</b>      | <b>Janet Fidler</b>     |
| <b>Hayden Stroupauer</b>      | <b>Hailey Stroupauer</b>  | <b>Barbara Sholl</b>    |
| <b>Doris Morgan</b>           | <b>Howard Lengel</b>      | <b>Drew Hikes</b>       |
| <b>James Brommer</b>          | <b>Jane Brommer</b>       | <b>Zoey Venzl</b>       |
| <b>Lorraine Shelters</b>      | <b>John Tucci</b>         | <b>Ronnie Wertz</b>     |
| <b>Ronald Zimmerman</b>       | <b>Lindsay Stroupauer</b> | <b>William Lengel</b>   |
| <b>Clarence Snyder</b>        | <b>Vince Kulbitsky</b>    | <b>Adam Venzl</b>       |
| <b>Brailynn Keefer</b>        | <b>John Tucci</b>         | <b>Jess</b>             |
| <b>Pastor Linda Bonfiglio</b> | <b>David Abrams</b>       |                         |

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**

- ✠ Gail E. Wilder who passed away on October 5<sup>th</sup>
- ✠ Carolyn Schaeffer, who passed away on October 8<sup>th</sup>



## **All Saints Sunday**

All Saints Sunday will be observed on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> during our worship service. We will remember our loved ones who passed away since All Saints Sunday 2025.



### Attention High School Seniors

Please contact the church office to obtain your **Stew Zerbe Scholarship application**. Completed applications are due in the office by **Tuesday, May 11, 2027**.



QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING

### JERUSALEM LUTHERAN FREE CONCERT SERIES

252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven

Duo Turlano- violin, cello, & piano. Staff from Lebanon Valley College - **November 1, 3:00 pm;**

Thanksgiving Community Service/Choir Festival **November 22, 3:00 pm**. A donation of a canned good for the food bank is much appreciated.

## Join us for Youth Group!



| Date        | Time    | Event Description/Location |
|-------------|---------|----------------------------|
| Sun. Nov. 8 | 11:30am | Soup Making                |
| Sat. Dec. 5 | 11am    | Christmas Caroling         |



Contact Jodi **570-294-6057** to Sign up for Youth Events

### Game Night

Come out and join us for a Game Night for all ages on **Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**. Bring your favorite game to play. Refreshments will be provided.

## Blessing of the Animals      October 4, 2026



## Harvest Home      October 11, 2026



### Committee Reports

Committee Reports for the Annual Congregational Meeting are due in the office no later than Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm.

### Church Council Meeting Highlights    October 1, 2026

- Harvest Home monetary donations were donated to ELCA World Hunger Relief and food donations were given to the St. Peter's food pantry.
- All Saints Sunday will be November 1, 2026.
- Ballots for church council nominations will be handed out November 8, 2026, and November 15, 2026, during the worship service. All active members are asked to participate in nominations.
- Church Directory photos will be taken January 4 and January 5, 2027.
- The annual St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 17, 2027 with an inclement weather date of February 7, 2027.
- Wedding and funeral policies for St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church were approved.

### Church Council Officers

Stephen Hikes, President  
Dale Ferrebee, Vice President  
Jodi Derr, Secretary  
Brenda Ferrebee, Treasurer  
Lillie Morgan, Financial Secretary  
Pastor: Rev. Michael Reist

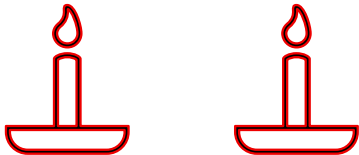
### Church Council Members

| <u>2027</u>         | <u>2028</u>    | <u>2029</u>       |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 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.

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

*Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Services  
With Holy Communion  
4:00 pm and 8:00 pm*



*Looking Ahead*

Pictorial Directory pictures will be taken on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. Details to follow.

**Get Ready for 'Twas the Night  
Before Christmas Sunday School  
Program!**

The holiday season is officially approaching and our children are busy getting ready for this year's special Sunday School Christmas program.

Practice for the program officially began on October 18<sup>th</sup> during Sunday School. If your child would like to take part in the program, there is still time! Simply bring them to Sunday School or reach out directly to Miss Janelle. Entitled *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, this wonderful presentation will take place on December 13<sup>th</sup> during the 9:00 am worship service.

During the Sunday School hour at 10:30 am, we will come together to celebrate Jesus's birthday with joy and fellowship. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Blanket our community with your warmth and compassion!**

Youth Ministries will begin collecting new or gently used blankets in November and December for distribution during the week between Christmas and New Year.

Any remaining blankets will be donated to a homeless shelter.



If anyone has blankets that are worn out, but still in good shape, they will be donated to a local animal shelter to help keep the fur babies warm this winter. Please label them SPCA.

(p.s. we love them too!)

A Christmas Cantata, *The Road to Bethlehem*, will be performed by our Senior Choir during the December 20<sup>th</sup> worship service.



**Potluck and Christmas Decorating**

Join us on **Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>** at **5:00 pm** for a potluck dinner and at **6:00 pm** to decorate the church for Christmas.

**Advent Candle Lighting**

We are looking for groups, such as families and friend groups, to lead our candle lighting for the four Sundays in Advent. This will be a scripture reading, a prayer, and then lighting as many candles as the week we will be in for that particular Sunday. Interested families and groups should see Lillie Morgan or call the church office. The first Sunday in Advent is November 29<sup>th</sup>.

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

# November 2026

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                      |                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                    |                               |                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1<br>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; All Saints Sunday; 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost<br>10:30 am Sunday School; Confirmation Class                                                                     | 2<br>7:00 pm Grief Share                             | 3<br>Senior Citizens<br>4:15 – 7:30 pm Music Lessons                                         | 4                                                                                                                                       | 5<br>4:15 – 9:00 pm Music Lessons<br>6:00 pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting<br>7:00 pm Church Council Meeting | 6                             | 7<br>8:00 am – 1:00 pm Music Lessons<br>6:30 pm Game Night<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation |
| 8<br>9:00 am Worship Service; Commemoration of 50 Year Confirmands; 24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost<br>10:30 am Sunday School<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation                                                               | 9<br>7:00 pm Grief Share<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation  | 10<br>4:15 – 7:30 pm Music Lessons<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation                                | 11<br>6:00 pm Christian Education Committee Meeting<br>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal<br>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation | 12<br>4:15 – 9:00 pm Music Lessons<br>6:00 pm Endowment Committee Meeting<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation               | 13<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation | 14<br>8:00 am – 1:00 pm Music Lessons<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation                      |
| 15<br>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; 25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost<br>10:30 am Sunday School<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation<br>Supply Pastor - Rev. Dr. Allison deForest                                   | 16<br>7:00 pm Grief Share<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation | 17<br>Senior Citizens<br>4:15 – 7:30 pm Music Lessons<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation             | 18<br>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation                                                                         | 19<br>4:15 – 9:00 pm Music Lessons<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation                                                      | 20<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation | 21<br>8:00 am – 1:00 pm Music Lessons<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation                      |
| 22<br>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion; Christ the King Sunday; Last Sunday after Pentecost<br>10:00 am Coffee Social<br>10:30 am Sunday School<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation<br>Supply Pastor – Rev. Lauren Applegate | 23<br>7:00 pm Grief Share<br>Pastor Mike on Vacation | 24<br>4:15 – 7:30 pm Music Lessons<br>5:00 pm Potluck<br>6:00 pm Church Christmas decorating | 25<br>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal                                                                                                    | 26<br>4:15 – 9:00 pm Music Lessons<br>Office Closed<br>HAPPY THANKSGIVING                                          | 27                            | 28<br>8:00 am – 1:00 pm Music Lessons                                                 |
| 29<br>9:00 am Worship Service; First Sunday of Advent<br>10:30 am Sunday School; Confirmation Class                                                                                                                            | 30<br>7:00 pm Grief Share                            |                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                    |                               |                                                                                       |

**POINSETTIA ORDER FORM 2026**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 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):**

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**IHO (in honor of):**

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**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Envelope #** \_\_\_\_\_

**AMOUNT PAID** \_\_\_\_\_ (   ) Check (   ) Cash

**Please submit orders with payment to the church office or place in the offering plate by Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.**