

Newsletter

The Voice of St. Peter's



stpeterslutheranpinegrove.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Letter	2
Church Council Meeting Highlights	3
Committee Chairs	3
Church Council & Officers	3
St. Peter's Schedule	4
May Worship Readings	4
Contemporary Worship	4
Matthew 25 Ministries Project	4
Confirmation Classes	4
Sponsorships	5
St. Peter's Mission Statement	5
Church Finances	5
May Ministry Meetings	6
Adult Bible Study	6
Adult Sunday School Schedule	6
Bible Journaling	6
Publishing Deadlines	6
Office Hours	6
Sunday School Schedule	6
Resource Links	6
Reading Phillies Baseball Game	6
Resurrection Eggs	7
Easter Egg Hunt	7
Easter Egg Painting	7
Easter Food Baskets	8
Food Pantry Refreshment Time	8
Drive In Theatre	8
Remember in Your Prayers	9
Memorials and Gifts	9
World Hunger Table	9
May Calendar	10

Pastor's Letter

Grace and Peace from our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen!

I remember very well the abandoned highway outside of Centralia. If you were ever there, you would see this giant bubble that formed about halfway through the road, and years ago that bubble opened up and formed a giant crack in the road, and steam from the mine fire would rise up from that crack.

I remember years ago taking a walk with a German pastor who had heard of Centralia but had never seen it. As we walked past the crack, it was clear that there was a group of teenage skateboarders there, using the ramp to jump.

Of course, the whole story of Centralia is a warning to all of us, in that if we aren't careful in our care of what God has given us, things can go awry quickly. If you aren't aware, there are a number of legends in how the mine fire started, but many people point to a story of a Christmas in the early 1960s where the borough collected everyone's trees, hauled them to the outskirts of town, and burned them. Unfortunately, an exposed part of the coal vein was near the burning pile of trees, and the fire continued to burn to this very day. You might have heard the story of the young child playing in their backyard, only to have the ground open up beneath them, going very deep into the ground.

If we don't take care of what God has given us, we pay for it later. That includes taking care of our neighbors, taking care of our land, and taking care of our church. That means checking in with each other, making sure needs are met, and making sure that we all play a part in making the church work. We are only as strong as our weakest link!

In our first food basket distribution since we set up shop in the parsonage, I saw this in action. I saw people putting orders together, people delivering food, people donating refrigerators and freezers, people bringing food to donate, people getting Thrivent grants to jumpstart this ministry into action, and so many more things. As a result, we served 90 people across 22 families, and we still have food that we can use to fill emergency orders.

We all play a part. And when we do this in the spirit of care for our neighbor, we help to ensure that "spiritual Centralias" don't happen.

Pastor Brian Beissel
570-516-1787
brianthepastor@gmail.com

Committee Chairs**Christian Education**

Brenda Ferrebee

Fellowship

Donna Zerbe

Evangelism

Angela Brown, CC Liaison

Finance

Angela Brown, CC Liaison

Property

Vernon Stroupauer

Social Ministry**Stewardship**

Angela Brown, CC Liaison

Worship and Music

Brenda Ferrebee, CC Liaison

Youth Ministry

Jodi Derr 570-294-6057

Technology

Ben Moyer 570-617-0703

WellnessJustin Stroupauer, CC
Liaison**Endowment Fund****Stew Zerbe Memorial****Scholarship Fund**

Donna Zerbe

Cemetery Association

Kurt Wessner 570-345-8020

Council of Churches

Brenda Ferrebee, CC Liaison

Church Council Meeting Highlights**April 21, 2022**

- A monument dedication event is being scheduled for early afternoon on Sunday, May 29, 2022. Music will begin at 2:00 PM from the Pine Grove Community Band, with the event beginning at 2:15. Light refreshments will be available following the service.
- Upcoming youth events include a drive-in movie night on May 13th and a trip to a Reading Phillies baseball game on August 4th.
- The replacement sound system has been ordered and is anticipated to be installed by the end of May. Many thanks for the generosity of Carol Baldwin, who has purchased the sound system in memory of her husband, Sam.

Church Council & Officers

<u><i>Elected Church Council</i></u>	<u><i>Year Elected</i></u>	<u><i>Term Expires</i></u>
Jodi Derr	2020	2023*
Bill Siegel	2020	2023*
Angela Brown	2020	2023
Dennis Adams	2020	2023
Beverly Morgan	2021	2024
Vernon Stroupauer	2021	2024
Brenda Ferrebee	2021	2024
Ben Moyer	2021	2024*
Dale Ferrebee	2022	2025
Lillie Morgan	2022	2025
Donna Zerbe	2022	2025
Justin Stroupauer	2022	2025

*Serving second term consecutively and cannot be reelected

Dale Ferrebee, President
 Justin Stroupauer, Vice President
 Angela Brown, Secretary
 Ben Moyer, Treasurer
 Lillie Morgan, Financial Secretary

Pastor: Brian Beissel

May Worship Readings

Sunday, May 1

Third Sunday of Easter; Holy Communion

First Reading: Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

Second Reading: Revelation 5:11-14

Gospel: John 21:1-19

Psalm: 30

Sunday, May 8

Fourth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Gospel: John 10:22-30

Psalm: 23

Sunday, May 15

Fifth Sunday of Easter; Holy Communion

First Reading: Acts 11:1-18

Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

Gospel: John 13:31-35

Psalm: 148

Sunday, May 22

Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 16:9-15

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

Gospel: John 14:23-29

Psalm: 67

Sunday, May 29

Seventh Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 16:16-34

Second Reading: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

Gospel: John 17:20-26

Psalm: 97



Matthew 25 Ministries Project



St. Peter's has donated nine large boxes of empty pill bottles thus far. Your participation in this ongoing project is greatly appreciated.



Confirmation Classes

Sunday, May 1st and 22nd

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

7th grade – Pastor Hoenich

8th and 9th grade – Pastor Beissel

**St. Peter's Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

**Saturday Service
Schedule**

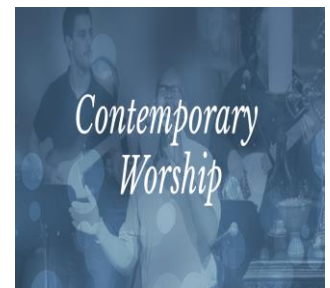
**Contemporary
Worship Service with
Holy Communion 2nd
Saturday of the month
6:00 pm**

Sunday Schedule

**Worship Service
9:00 am**

**Holy Communion
1st & 3rd
Sundays of the month**

**Sunday School
10:30 AM**

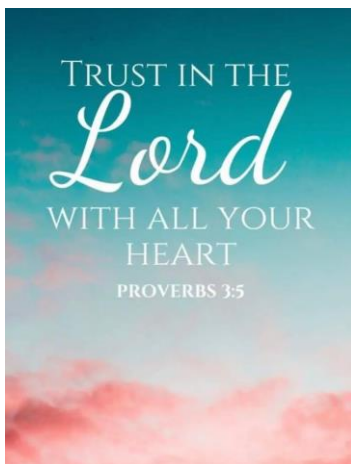


Contemporary
worship service with
Holy Communion
will be held on
Saturday, May 14th
at 6:00 pm in the
fellowship hall.

Sponsorships**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."



Altar Flowers are available for May 1st, 8th and 15th – cost is \$25

Chancel Flowers are available for May 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th - cost is \$25

Sanctuary Candle is available for August, October, and November – cost is \$35

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

Newsletter is available for August, October, and November – cost is \$40

Bulletin is available for May 1st, 22nd and 29th – cost is \$15

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



The **May Newsletter** is sponsored to the Glory of God in memory of Thelma Hubler for Mother's Day by her family.

The **Sanctuary Candle** for May is sponsored to the Glory of God in memory of Henry Koenig by the John Schroeder family.

Church Finances - End of March 2022

March General Income: \$11,251.51 March General Expenses: \$14,768.98

Checking Balances**General Fund**

\$2,170.63

Memorial Fund

\$13,320.59

Youth Ministry Fund

\$16,084.32

Savings Accounts

Undesignated Savings \$63,725.01

Designated Stew Zerbe

Memorial Scholarship Fund \$2,830.00

Haiti Reservoir Project

Allotment \$5,539.00

Total \$72,094.01

Capital Improvement Fund

a. Parsonage Improvements \$3,635.86

b. Video/Audio \$2,871.97

c. Designated Prepaid Fuel \$1,120.00

d. Designated Fellowship \$3,544.59

e. Undesignated Cap.Improv. \$8,484.55

Total \$19,656.97

Stew Zerbe**Memorial Scholarship Investment**

\$9,878.65

YTD Contributions Total \$44,768.61

Includes the following funds:

General, Lent/Easter, Youth Ministry, Plate, Pre-Buy Oil, Benevolence, Memorial, Building, Capital Imp, World Hunger, Hall Rental, Sunday School, Flowers, Initial Offering, Weekday Church School, Hunger Food Table, VBS, Bulletins, Communion, Newsletter, Stew Zerbe Memorial, Endowment, Needy Fund, Candle Oil, Souper Bowl of Caring, Christmas Eve, Christmas Baskets, Sanctuary Light, Disaster Relief, Pentecost/Ascension, Harvest Home, Reformation, Thanksgiving, Luncheon, Fellowship, Video/Audio and 200th Anniversary



Office Hours

Monday – Friday

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

570-345-3306

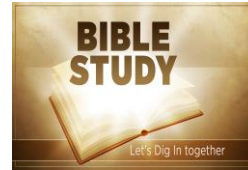
St. Peter's Parish Secretary

Melissa Kimmel

****office hours have changed for
the month of May****



Watch the Sunday bulletin
for the next meeting date
and time.



Adult Bible Study is
held every Monday at
10:30 am. For more
information, please
contact Pastor Beissel.

****note time change****

May Ministry Meetings

May 9th

Worship and Music
Committee
11:30 AM

May 12th

Endowment Fund
Committee
6:00 PM
Church Council
7:00 PM

May 17th

Finance Committee
6:00 PM
Evangelism Committee
7:00 PM

Resource Links

ELCA

<https://www.elca.org/>

NEPA Synod

<http://nepasynod.org/>

Schuylkill Mission District

<http://lutheransalive.org>

Passion Rescue Mission

<https://passionrescuemission.org>

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 afternoon at
2:00 pm.

The June newsletter
deadline is Monday, May
16th. This is necessary to
allow time to lay out the
publication.

Adult Sunday School Schedule

May wraps up our last month at looking
at our faith as played out in popular
music. Beginning in June, we will be
watching the new documentary on the
Hillsong United Mega Church, done by
the Discovery Channel.

For now, come join us as we wrap up
our musical unit in style.

May 1: The Beatles, part 1

May 8: The Beatles, part 2

May 15: The "Jesus Rock" movement
of the 1970's

May 22: Tipper Gore and the Religious
Right vs the Rock n' Roll establishment
(featuring John Denver)

Sunday School Schedule Abraham and Sarah

May 1
Science
Alethea Wessner, Gwen Moyer

May 8
Cooking
Andrea Knoll, Justine Tice

May 15
Art
Pastor Bob and Nan Hoenich

May 22
Bible Skills and Games
Sarah Reichelt, Nancy Reichelt

May 29
Video
Jodi Derr

Youth Ministry will be taking a trip to see the
Reading Phillies play on August 4th. It will be
"Faith Night" at the game.

The pool area has been reserved and there will
be an all you can eat buffet.

If you are interested in going, please contact the
parish secretary by **July 1st**.



Easter Egg Hunt



This year's egg hunt was held on Saturday, April 16th. Our church was bustling from corner to corner with families! We were incredibly blessed with a yummy lunch, treats, children singing, crafting, and hunting eggs with the wonderful turnout. Oh! And ... we can't forget to thank the bunny for hopping in!

Thank you to all who made the day possible with donations of candy, eggs, and valuable time. It is so appreciated.

Easter Egg Painting

Easter egg painting was held on Friday, April 8th. Children explored different methods of egg painting with traditions old and new. This is an annual event. We look forward to next year and hope you will join us!



Resurrection Egg Project

This year for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, children combined the fun of hunting eggs with the story of Christ's journey to the cross with resurrection eggs. Each station provided symbolism and a small project to enhance and reflect on the season.



Easter Food Baskets

St. Peter's received \$726 in offering donations for the Easter food baskets. We were able to feed 22 families in need, filling 40 boxes with food. Many thanks to the congregation for supporting this ministry.



Parsonage Food Pantry



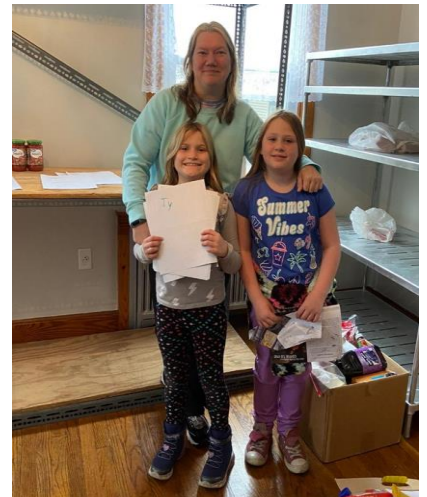
Helpers



Helpers



Helper



Helpers

Food Pantry Refreshment Time

Each month, we will be collecting a different item for the food pantry located in the parsonage to help restock our shelves for people in need.

For the month of May, our item is boxed stuffing such as Stove Top. All month long, please bring in all varieties and flavors of stuffing and place it on the table for donations in the fellowship hall.

Thank you for your generosity!

Drive in Theatre Featuring *Encanto*

Disney's *Encanto* will be shown on Friday, May 13th, beginning at 7:30 pm in the church parking lot. Refreshments will be served at no cost! All are welcome and the movie is open to the community!



Memorials and Gifts... To the Glory of God

Memorial Fund) \$100 in memory of Patricia Gilbert by Charles Gilbert;
(World Hunger) \$100 in memory of William and Gloria Harris and Alice
 Natale by George and Kathy Sorokach; **(Benevolence)** \$50 in honor of
 Julianna Irene Bridget Morgan's baptism by Steve and Bev Morgan

The new **Sound System** is given to the Glory of God in memory of Sam
 Baldwin, Jr. by his wife, Carol Baldwin

Veterans Memorial Monument - \$250 was donated by the members of
 the Youth Ministry committee

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

Donald Schwartz
Bill Siegel
Naomi Watson
Tracey Schneck
Colleen Thayer
Jim Gruber
John Schroeder
Kathleen Brand
Timmy Beissel

Dr. Bob Yost
Albert Brand
Corrine Hippert



Robert Lengel
Karen Yoder
Christopher Beeman
Nancy Ditzler
Ben Moyer
Dave Kimmel
Donna Zerbe
Brandon Moyer

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

**World Hunger Table**

On **Sunday, May 1st**, we will start the **World Hunger Table**. This year all the gifts will go toward purchasing food items to stock our food pantry housed in the parsonage. As always, we welcome donated items of produce, seeds, plants, flowers, cookies, treats, handmade items, etc. The table will be placed near the four-door entrance into the church during pleasant weather. When it rains, we will find a place inside. If you can help to be present at the table on any given Sunday, please speak to Pastor Bob who will be there during the first few Sundays in May. This is a meaningful and essential ministry at St. Peter's as we reach out in love to those in need. May our Lord bless us to be a blessing in the lives of others.





St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>1</div> <p>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30 am Sunday School 5:00 pm Confirmation Classes 6:00 pm Grief Share</p>	<div>2</div> <p>10:30 am Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm VBS meeting</p>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div> <p>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>	<div>5</div> <p>10:00 am Knitting Circle</p>	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div> <p>8:00 am Breakfast with the Bible at Mama Bear's in Branchdale</p>
<div>8</div>  <p>9:00 am Worship Service 10:30 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Grief Share</p>	<div>9</div> <p>10:30 am Adult Bible Study 11:30 am Worship and Music Committee Meeting</p>	<div>10</div>	<div>11</div> <p>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>	<div>12</div> <p>10:00 am Knitting Circle 6:00 pm Endowment Fund Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div> <p>6:00 pm Contemporary Worship Service</p>
<div>15</div> <p>9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Grief Share</p>	<div>16</div> <p>10:30 am Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm Feeding Ministry Meeting at Salem Hetzel's Church</p>	<div>17</div> <p>6:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Evangelism Meeting</p>	<div>18</div> <p>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>	<div>19</div> <p>10:00 am Knitting Circle</p>	<div>20</div>	<div>21</div>
<div>22</div> <p>9:00 am Worship Service 10:30 am Sunday School 5:00 pm Confirmation Classes 6:00 pm Grief Share</p>	<div>23</div> <p>10:30 am Adult Bible Study</p>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div> <p>7:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>	<div>26</div> <p>10:00 am Knitting Circle Pastor Beissel will be out of the office</p>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>
<div>29</div> <p>9:00 am Worship Service 10:30 am Sunday School 2:00 pm Veterans Monument Dedication 6:00 pm Grief Share</p>	<div>30</div>  <p>No Bible Study</p>	<div>31</div>				

