UR

H C

Z

UTHERA

S

~

ETEI

Д

S

From the Pastor:



"Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'" John 19b-21

Terms and conditions apply. See store for details. An asterisk followed by fine print. Talking so fast that you can only pick up every third word. There are a lot of ways that the reality of a deal or contract get hidden right under our noses.

It was the tiny words at the bottom of coupons when shopping with my mom that first made me aware of this slight of hand. When you're a kid, you take things at face value. So when the ad says "Everything 50% Off," you get excited about the new outfit that you'll be able to get now, until you realize the advertising department is a group of dream crushers because they really mean 50% off just on the stuff you didn't want to buy. Or when the grocery store runs a Buy One Get One Free on ice cream, and you dream of loading the chest freezer in enough flavors to make Baskin-Robbins blush, until you find the asterisk there to inform you that the limit is two. Actually, one time, Giant Eagle ran a promotion on cereal that was so good, double manufacturers coupons which could also be combined with some other concurrent deal, that we got so many carts of cereal that it's possible there's still a box tucked somewhere into a nook or cranny at my parents' house. Now that I mention it, maybe we're the reason *Limit 4 started showing up on coupons, although we didn't have more than 4 ... carts.

Contracts and agreements with pages of small printed terms and conditions are everywhere, too. Go to the roller-skating rink or a hospital for major surgery and either place you are likely going to sign something that says, tucked among countless other pages, you understand that you might die and don't hold anyone accountable for it. Software updates and blood donating ask me to click a box saying I've read and understood all the information. I don't have time to read all of that, and likely wouldn't understand it all even if I did, which is what less savory companies are banking on happening. Still, I cringe when I click the box that says I have read and agree to the terms of service of our worship broadcasting software as it has updated right before the prelude, and I'm caught lying just before the service.

After Jesus' resurrection, he shows up in the room with the disciples presenting them a deal. No coupons are needed. Jesus already paid the purchase price. He offers them God's peace.

2. Pastors Page	7. Holy Week	12. Minutes
3. First Holy Communion	8. Announcements	13. Minutes
4. St. Peter's Pride	9. Thank Yous	14. Volunteers
5. Fish Fry 2024	10. Financial Facts	15. Calendar/Birthdays
6. Meager Meals	11. Thoughts & Prayers	16. Sponsor Page

PASTOR'S PAGE CONTINUED

Although Jesus bought that peace with his own blood, there are terms to the agreement. However, they aren't in fine print, they aren't any asterisks, and Jesus didn't say them at an auctioneer's pace or that we'd have to see store for details. No, the terms are right there in regular-sized red-letter print. "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Jesus offers God's peace to those who receive the commission to be his "sent ones."

This is not to say that you must earn your salvation. When Jesus shows the disciples his wounds, it's like showing the receipt for the cost of our redemption. Therefore, living as "sent ones," also known as *apostles*, doesn't earn us God's grace, but rather keeps us connected to the source of our salvation, which brings us peace. On the other hand, we can ignore God's call to be living bearers of the good news according to God's will, but that separates us from God. Such separation forfeits the gift of peace with God, and prevents us from having true peace with our own selves as well.

Being attuned to God's will brings peace. Jesus, who was aware of and obedient to the will of the Father like no one else, commissions us as sent ones in the same Way. Made God's children and apostles, our very lives have been handcrafted to bear the message that God loves all people and has saved humanity through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Living in harmony with who God made us to be is the path of peace, peace with God and ourselves, as offered by Jesus. There are no better deals, no more favorable terms out there, and thankfully, no limits on this peace.



That was a good early April Fools joke by someone muting my pulpit microphone for the last couple of weeks. You got me good, but let's not repeat that joke for a long time.





Pastor Johns visited with residents at RoseCrest
Lutheran Senior Life for an intergenerational hour of
fun. The afternoon welcomed families and children in
particular for a time of music, stories, and crafts. Both
seniors, children, and the adults who participated had a
wonderful time and hope to return again. Pictured left
is Anna Johns, Pastor Johns, and Arlene, member of
Zion Lutheran, whom Pastor Johns is also serving at this
time, and sister of Eilene Budisky.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

On Sunday, March 24th St. Peter's welcomed Liberty Merrison and Carter Johns to share in the sacrament of communion.

Many blessings to all of you as you join your church family in partaking in the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.



"I give you an example, that you may do for others what I have done for you." - The Foot Washing (John 13:1-11)





Carter & Liberty learned how to make unleavened bread for communion.
Their bread was shared with the congregation during communion.







ST. PETER'S PRIDE



Thank you to everyone who participated in Daffodil Days this year!

Many brought in jars from previous years to help showcase the many years we have raised funds for the American Cancer Society.







We had a great time playing games after the fish fry dinner.
Youth from St. Paul joined us too for helping out at the dinner and the fun afterwards.



500 Card Club – will meet this month on Friday, April 5th at 12pm Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend - no experience needed! If you would

like to learn to play you are welcome to join in the fun. It's a pot luck event so bring whatever you would like to share. We hope you can join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.









FISH FRY2024







Many thanks to our Fellowship Committee
led by Debbie Merrison and a great team of
volunteers for your hard work and
dedication in making our Fish Fry and
wonderful ministry event! Much
appreciation also to everyone who
contributed your time, donations and talents
toward sponsoring this fundraiser and the
ministry it supports!





MEAGER MEALS



St. Peter's Youth join Pastor Johns before worship on Thursday night for a meager meal and discussion.

The confirmation class meets weekly during lent. They enjoy the fellowship time together even if that means they participate and learn remotely!



Thanks to everyone who brought soup and bread, and for those who set up and cleaned up the dinners! Many came for the fellowship and encountered the living Lord in the breaking of bread and being the Body of Christ together. We were fed body and spirit, nourished for our journey. We needed to add more soup this year and more bead as well! It was a blessing to have so many to serve each week during this season of Lent.











HOLY WEEK













The Lenten Cross Garden (left) grew every Sunday during the season of Lent. The Garden began with a simple wooden cross and had a crown of thorns, nails, a linen, wine and finally bread was added with the final reading: "Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be

hungry...'" John 6:35. The different symbols added are visual reminders of Christ's suffering for our sake during the Lenten journey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS





WELCA CLUSTER 1&6 SPRING EVENT

Oak Grove Lutheran Church 432 Harkins Mill Rd. Zelienople

Saturday, April 13th 8:30 am Registration 9:00 am Breakfast\$5

Bible Study led by Pr. Steve Slepecki (Psalm 98) & Program by The Blenders Singing Group

RSVP by Sun. April 7th to Charen Bennett 724.544.1723 (cell)

Rummage Sale - Reduce - Reuse - Recycle at St. Peter's with our Spring Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 20th. Donations start to be accepted beginning on Monday, April 1st so we keep our space open for our Holy Week and Easter celebrations. Please no clothes, also large furniture items and electronics are acceptable as long as those who bring them are willing to take them back if they don't sell. Thank you!

<u>Lunch Bunch</u>- If you enjoy a good meal and good people, please consider being a part of this month's Lunch Bunch. The next Lunch Bunch will be **Wednesday**, **April 10**th at 12pm at **Marty's in Cranberry**. Please let Pastor know ahead of time so we can reserve the right number of seats. We order from the menu & lunch is Dutch treat.



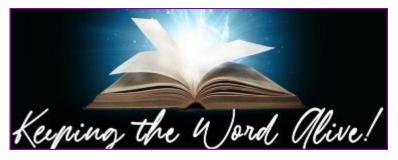
THANK YOUS



Thank you to everyone who donated candy and trinkets to make our annual Easter Egg Hunt full of fun and surprises!

St. Peter's youth always fill the eggs as part of their mission to serve on the evening of Good Friday. Thank you to the youth group for your willingness to serve!

Thank you to those who signed up for the annual Keeping the Word Alive vigil. For about thirty-six hours, volunteers read the Gospel of John, broken only by readers taking time for prayer or using other provided devotional material to reflect on the magnitude of Jesus' sacrificial love for us.



In March, we were awarded two grants by the Mission Endowment Fund Board. The first was for \$1,500 for the After School and Day Camp programs, and the second was also for \$1,500 to be used for our Campership Fund for Lutherlyn campers. These grants are from the Synod's Mission Endowment Fund. We are grateful to the them and to Heidi Beahm and Cheryl Thomas for helping our congregation secure these grants.

Manna Night - Is now on break until the fall, except for our water night in August, date TBD. Thank you to all of our volunteers who have helped out with this valuable ministry!

Dear St. Peter's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous support of the BDSRA Foundation. We exist to provide support, research, and advocacy for families with all forms of Batten disease. Your gift of \$580 on 2/6/2024 is critical to our work, and we are grateful.

Through good stewarding of gifts like yours, we are growing the menu of programs available for all Batten families. We are providing cutting-edge information on research and funding grants toward treatments and a cure. We are advocating at the local, state, and federal level for Batten disease and the needs of our community. We are expanding our collaborative efforts with our international partners, and its impact is felt around the world.

Kind Regards, Amy Fenton Parket, President & CEO

FINANCIAL FACTS

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Funds Report

Posted Contributions For Period: 02/01/2024 to 02/29/2024

Fund	Description		Amount
213	Synod Benevolence		1,296.50
217	ELCA Lutherlyn Prospect		489.00
234	Sherri Ifft - Missionary		80.00
242	EDCO Park		10.00
280	Window Coverings		900.00
297	Cub Scout Pack 399		1,185.11
400	Current Fund Income		15,854.37
401	Music Fund Income		138.00
402	Memorial Fund Income		995.00
405	Flower Income		265.00
406	Youth Fund Income		528.80
407	Priority Project Income		110.00
408	After School Program Income		3,018.00
410	Campership Income		10.00
412	Manna Night		10.00
		Grand Total	24,889.78

A Financial Update

In an effort to keep everyone informed about our current financial situation the reconciled Treasurer's report of our funds as of the end of February 2024 is as follows: Current Fund \$13,986.78, Memorial Fund \$7159.74, Youth Fund \$9,698.97, Manna Fund 4,346.51, Priority Project Fund \$15,496.19, After School Program \$10,838.74. Many thanks to those who continue to give to these funds which give us the ability to serve Christ and others.

Evans City Community Food Cupboard

If you would like to help pack food for those in need join the many St. Peter's volunteers the second Sunday of each month after worship! Packing up takes about 1 hour or less and serves many families in our area.

During the month of April, we will collect
Hamburger Helper. Donations can be placed on
the table in Luther Hall and volunteers will take
them to the designated spot for donations. Thank
you to everyone who has donated items for our
monthly ministry to the Food Cupboard.

Mission Endowment Fund Update

At the end of 2023 St. Peter's was gifted almost \$60,000 from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church as it closed it's door. They respectfully allocated funds from the sale of their church to various charitable organizations with St. Peter's being named a benefactor. Good Shepherd acknowledged Pastor Brandon Johns as a Son of their congregation and their desire to help fund future ministries at St. Peter's. Previous funds donated to St. Peter's for the purpose of a future endowment were combined for a total of \$68,562.83 in the newly named St. Peter's Good Shepherd Endowment Fund.

Giving To Synod Benevolence in 2024

Just a quick reminder that if you would like to give to Synod Benevolence in 2024 (giving to the greater church that reaches beyond the doors of St. Peter's) you can choose to mark your contribution envelope in the benevolence section.

Just a reminder: if you do not mark your contribution envelope 10% of your entire donation will go to synod benevolence, as approved by church council.

St. Peter's pledged \$14,500 to synod benevolence in 2024. Hopefully we reach our goal again this year.

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause for April

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause for April will support EDCO Park. If you would like to support this cause please mark the Other line on your contribution envelope <u>EDCO</u>.



THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Cole Barkley

John, Summer, Timothy Barron & Family

Helen Barto

Dave Brockhoff

(open heart surgery – Robin VanDyke)

Tom Broeren

Jane Brown

Kay Burr

Cindy Caldwell (breast cancer)

Jane Carruth (Colon Cancer - B.Barkley)

Luke Clawson

Michael Clawson

David English (Lung Cancer)

Diane Fair

Mary, Glenn and David Fulghum

Lori Goodwin

Joan Gumpp

Patty Grubbs

Bill Head

Annastyn Hogan

Stephanie Hogan

Ella Jason

Greg John

Carol Kerr

Val Kurth (Breast Cancer)

Todd Manuel (blood cancer)

Jane Mashuda

Jenny Mashuda

Diamond McCracken

Matt & Kim Morris

Mark Phillips

Leah Plank

Erin Price

Bill Puryear (cancer)

Barb Rader

Lori Rasp

Rick Reifenstein

Judy Smith

(breathing issues – from: T. O'Malley)

Carrie Sphar (cancer – from: C. Thomas)

Jane Taylor

Cathy VanDyke

(Robin Van Dyke's Sister-In-Law)

John Vrana

Liam Wahl

(infant in need of heart transplant)

Glen Walker

Mary Watson

Bob Wearing

Garrie Wearing

John & Kay Yuengert

(submitted by Karen Ferrari)

Nancy & Butch Zattiero

PRAYERS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND

Please contact the church office as soon as possible to request additions or changes.

Carol Green Ruth Rasp

Norma Iman Gini Rinkus

Lucille Wingard

INTERCESSIONS FOR CONSOLATION IN GRIEF

Members and friends who have entered the Church Triumphant in the previous 3 months:

The family of Karen Marburger

MARCH COUNCIL MINUTES

March 12, 2024

Present: Staci Bettencourt, Rob Burr, Marlene Domhoff, Patti Flach, Casey Guerriero, Pastor Johns, Adam Price, Rita Reifenstein, Linda Schmidt, Jane Taylor, Corey Walker

Absent: Dan Erin, Ted Lindgren III (both excused—work related)

Reception of Visitors: None

President Adam Price called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM, and Pastor shared a reading from Thomas Merton and led us in discussion and prayer.

Minutes: Minutes from the February 20th meeting were read and adjusted. Corey motioned to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Jane. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report and Financial Secretary's Reports: Written reports were submitted and approved. Clarification was addressed regarding the Porter Family Trust and the Food Cupboard. Rob motioned to accept and it was seconded by Jane. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: A written report was submitted and discussed. It was another busy month as Pastor is continuing his work at Zion and St. Paul; however, a candidate is being interviewed in the near future. The churches have not yet gathered a call committee. Chelsea Mars's son, Hudson, will be baptized here on the 1st Sunday in May.

Fellowship: A written report was submitted. A successful fish dinner was held on March 8th. Monies from the Easter Breakfast will go towards Camp Lutherlyn. A Pirate game is scheduled for Saturday, June 22nd. A Sight and Sound Theater trip is scheduled for the first Saturday in November, the 2nd. Twenty tickets have been reserved for this event. Since the committee recommended this, Corey seconded it. Motion carried.

Financial: No written report was submitted.

Learning Ministry/Youth: No written report was submitted.

Memorial: No written report was submitted.

Mutual Ministry: No written report submitted.

Property: A written report was submitted. After Easter, the concrete work for the steps will commence. Spring Work Day is scheduled for 8:30 on May 18th. A discussion occurred regarding new deck boards for the parsonage. Marlene moved to approve this; it was seconded by Linda, and the motion was passed. Voles on the church grounds may be trapped. A bid was received by Caylor Hollow Pest and Wildlife. Simply trapping these was recommended. A motion to approve this was made by Jane, and Stacey seconded this. The fire extinguishers were inspected.

MARCH COUNCIL MINUTES (CONTINUED)

Worship and Music: A written report was submitted that addressed Lenten services. First Communion will be held on Palm Sunday. Liberty Merrison and Carter Johns will receive the sacrament that day. On Holy Thursday a reenactment of the Living Last Supper will be held. Good Friday Cross Walk will begin at our church with the community service being held at Westminster. Another service will be held at St. Peter's at 7:00 PM. *Keeping the Word Alive* will occur again this year beginning at 8:00 PM and continuing until Easter morning. This will occur in person and on Zoom.

Anniversary: A written report was submitted. Rita reviewed the latest news. On April 14th, Pastor Saylor will either preach or preside. The recommendation from Council would be for him to preside. On June 30th, recognition of those members 75 and above will occur. Sale of the ornaments continue. Research is continuing on the historical aspects of the church. Our youth will be involved in looking through materials including bulletins, photographs and other memorabilia. History books are being created. T-Shirts will also be made. Work is continuing on the cookbook; the last proof is being worked on now. Each weekly bulletin now contains a bit of historical information. On October 6th the dinner will be held at Camp Lutherlyn.

Unfinished Business:

Outreach Committee: No update

Refugee Resettlement Project: No update.

<u>Church Constitution</u>: No Update.

<u>Lutherlyn Capital Campaign</u>: Ted Lindgren II is leading our campaign. Pledges were made this week.

New Business/Miscellaneous:

<u>Directory</u>: A company, Universal Church Directories, used by Oak Grove was suggested. They will be contacted to determine if we can arrange this for this year. Rita moved to approve this; Patti seconded it. Motion approved. Jane will explore this issue.

Pastor's 8 Years: 8th Anniversary with us at St. Peter's this Friday!

The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment with Prayer: The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Flach

VOLUNTEERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

People making worship better at St. Peter's

Date	04/07/2024	04/14/2024	04/21/2024	04/28/2024
Acolytes	Anna Johns	Myka Plank	Meera Lindgren	Ethan Johns
Altar Flowers (\$40)	Marlene Domhoff	Michael & Staci Bettencourt	Talea Merrison	Kim & Matt Morris
Altar Guild	Pat Capella	Pat Capella	Pat Capella	Pat Capella
Asst. Minister	Ted LindgrenII	Anna Plank	Karen Ferrari	Troy Barkley
Bell Ringer	Adam Price	Jason Plank	Troy Barkley	Davin Beahm
Communion Ministers	Debbie Merrison	Robin Van Dyke	Teresa O'Malley	Ted Lindgren II
Eternal Candle (\$15)	Teresa O'Malley	Teresa O'Malley	Teresa O'Malley	Teresa O'Malley
Greeters	Helen Barto & Pat Capella	Davin & Heidi Beahm	Joe Ludwik & Dean Zinkhann	Karen Ferrari & Eilene Budisky
Lector	Marsha Reedy	Adam Price	Becky Rengers	Jane Taylor
Nursery	Colleen Prenovitz	Beverly Barkley	Cheryl Thomas	Staci Bettencourt
Offering Counters	Cheryl Thomas & Patti Flach			
Tech Support	Adam Price	Heidi Beahm	Adam Price	Heidi Beahm



7

K

2









St. Peter's Fellowship Committee invites you to this exciting road trip to Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA on Saturday, November 2. We will take in a performance of *Daniel* at 3 pm.

Those wishing to carpool will leave St. Peter's at 9 am. We'll make a stop for lunch. After the show we'll also stop for dinner and plan to arrive back around 11 pm. Pastor will drive a group. Tickets are \$75. We reserved a block of 20 that are first come, first serve. See Eilene for more details.



St. Johns UCC is hosting **Vacation Bible School** this summer! Mark your calendar for July 7-11.



VBS will take place in the evenings this year from 5:30-7:30 pm. Please see Pastor Johns if you are interested in volunteering for VBS this year!

Women ELCA

The Women of the ELCA will be hosting their Spring Cluster 4 Gathering on Saturday April 13th at Good Shepherd in Greensburg. For more information please see the flyer on the bulletin board or Teresa O'Malley.

APRIL CALENDAR AND BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	4pm - After School	9am - Pr. Cluster -Zelle.	4pm - After School	9am - Quilters Group	12pm - 500 Club & Lunch	
	7pm - Boy Scouts	4pm - After School	7pm - Choir Practice	1pm - Mary Circle	4pm - After School	
	7pm - Worship Mtg.	7pm - Property Mtg.		4pm - After School		
				7pm - Bible Study		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9am - Sunday School	4pm - After School	4pm - After School	12pm - Lunch Bunch	9am - Quilters Group	4pm - After School	9am - Lot Reserved
10:15am - Worship	6:55pm - Anniversary	7pm - Council Meeting	4pm - After School	4pm - After School		
11:30am - Fellowship	7pm - Boy Scouts		7pm - Choir Practice	7pm - Bible Study		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9am - Sunday School	4pm - After School	4pm - After School	4pm - After School	9am - Quilters Group	4pm - After School	8am - Rummage Sale
10:15am - Worship	7pm - Boy Scouts		7pm - Choir Practice	4pm - After School		6:30pm - Game Night
11:30am - Fellowship	7pm - Sowers			7pm - Bible Study		
11:45am - Pack Up Food						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9am - Sunday School	4pm - After School	4pm - After School	4pm - After School	9am - Quilters Group	4pm - After School	
10:15am - Worship	6:30pm - Worship Mtg.	7pm - Dorcas Circle	7pm - Choir Practice	4pm - After School		
11:30am - Fellowship	7pm - Boy Scouts			7pm - Bible Study		
100		30				
9am - Sunday School	4pm - After School	4pm - After School	1	2	3	4
9am - Sunday School		-pm - After School				
10:15am - Worship	6:30pm - Finance					
11:30am - Fellowship	7pm - Boy Scouts					

Dates to remember during our anniversary celebration.

We invited the former pastors and sons and daughters of our congregation to join us for worship and help lead worship.

The following dates are as confirmed:

April 14th — Pastor David Saylor, former pastor May 5th – Pastor Randy Marburger, son of the congregation July 7th—Pastor Beverly Banyay, daughter of the congregation July 14th—Former members of St. Peter's Pipers will provide special music.

August 11th – Pastor Kenneth Thompson, former pastor, and Pastor Karen Thompson

October 6th will be the final worship celebration for the anniversary festivities, followed by a banquet at Camp Lutherlyn with many special guests being invited.

Arrangements have not yet been completed to include Darla Burr Kincaid & Sherry Ifft during worship. Both are daughters of St. Peter's.

- 1 Bea King
- 1 Elliot Walker
- 3 Barbara Graham
- 4 Nicole Otto
- 4 Robert Watson II
- 5 Mark Zoelle
- 9 Lisa Barnett
- 13 Charlotte Bettencourt
- 13 Kerren Morra
- 14 Morgan Weir
- 16 Cheryl Thomas
- 20 Janice Marburger
- 21 Emily Taylor
- 22 Norma Iman 27 Russel Zoelle
- 26 Kim Sharrar 28 Sue Mick
- 27 Rylee Taylor 29 Sophia Johns
- 28 26 Kate Johns 30 Patricia Painter



ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

202 Van Buren St. Evans City, PA 16033

Call us: 724-538-5810 E-mail us stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net



Website: http:// www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org/



Our Staff:

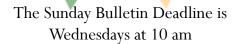
Pastor Brandon Johns

Kimberly Peaco, Secretary

Marlene Domhoff,
Organist / Music Director

Joe Ludwik, Sexton

Heidi Beahm After School Director



Monthly Newsletter Deadline is the 3rd Sunday of each month

Sunday School = 9:00 am Weekly Worship Services = Sundays at 10:15 am

Check Our Weekly Calendar of other events.

Office Hours for Secretary: Monday thru Friday 9:00 am til Noon

If you are interested in sponsoring the newsletter, we have opportunities available for May, June and December. Please contact the church office.

