



Volume 93 February 2023 - March 2023

# Steeple Views

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR WAGNER

*The season of Lent is a time of prayer and introspection. This reflection first appeared in our daily messages on February 9, but it is a good one to keep in mind throughout Lent when candles and prayers will reign supreme in our services.*

Dear church,

Paul writes this at the end of his letter to the people in Thessalonica and it sounds a little bit like a parent giving last pieces of advice to their children before they depart. Paul was in fact the spiritual father of those congregations

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***“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing.”***

1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

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that he wrote to and some others as well; in addition, he formed disciples that took on this role when he was gone later. He uses the expression “pray without ceasing” a few times in his letters. And if you wonder how we are supposed to do that (constantly praying???), especially when you lead a busy life with many activities, children perhaps, and a fulltime job, you are not alone. Yes, how are we supposed to take Paul seriously here? Can we make prayer as natural as breathing?

Last week when I was in my old home in Germany, we were joined by my nephew Lukas, his wife Mona and their two young children. It was a re-education in what it means to be a young parent, let me tell you. They never had enough hands, it seemed, and barely a moment to themselves, despite other helping and well-meaning adults nearby. Comforting fact to those who have very young children: after a while you forget just how demanding it was! Yes, you really forget!!! I looked at my wife and we both said that we couldn't do that level of care anymore, with sleep deprived nights and near-constant needs. It's for a younger generation... Paul of course never had biological children. It's easy for him to say, “Pray without ceasing...” The guy had never changed a diaper in his life!

But I also wouldn't say he is wrong or irrelevant here. It's more, I believe, about how we define prayer. If you use a very strict definition of formal traditional

### SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

**Sanctuary:**  
**8:30 am & 10:30 am**  
**with Livestreaming**  
**Sunday School**

ST. PETER'S  
CHURCH COUNCIL  
Suzanne Shaffer, President  
Maureen Tang, Vice President  
Maryann Gerhart, Secretary  
Dave Kinka, Treasurer  
Brooke Alderfer  
Diana Blum  
Steve Frescatore  
Daren Gross  
John Ledder  
Doug Longwill  
Diana Sundar  
Steve Wright  
Diane Zenker

### CORE VALUES

As members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church we value and embrace service driven ministry and being “other-oriented” serving God by serving people both locally and globally.

As members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church we value and strive for meaningful vibrant worship, enhanced with purposeful liturgy, powerful relevant messages, devout prayer, glorious music and participation by both clergy and lay “ministers”.

As members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church we value spiritual growth for all generations defined by well thought out programs available for all ages and strong support for families of all types.

As members of St. Peter's we value and commit to being an inclusive community promoting authentic caring relationships with each other and our partners in ministry, always treating each other with respect.

As members of St. Peter's we value and commit to community hospitality, placing importance on being an integral part of our community by using both our building facility and our actions.

## STEEPLE VIEWS

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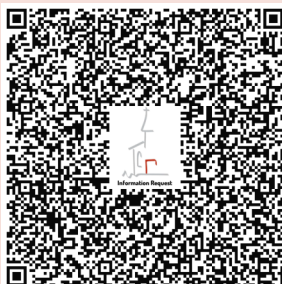
**Office Manger:** Lisa Miller

Articles for *Steeple Views* should be submitted to the office or [secretary@stpetersnorthwales.org](mailto:secretary@stpetersnorthwales.org)

***It is the Mission of St. Peter's Lutheran Church to invite all people to know, live, and share Jesus Christ***



Information Request

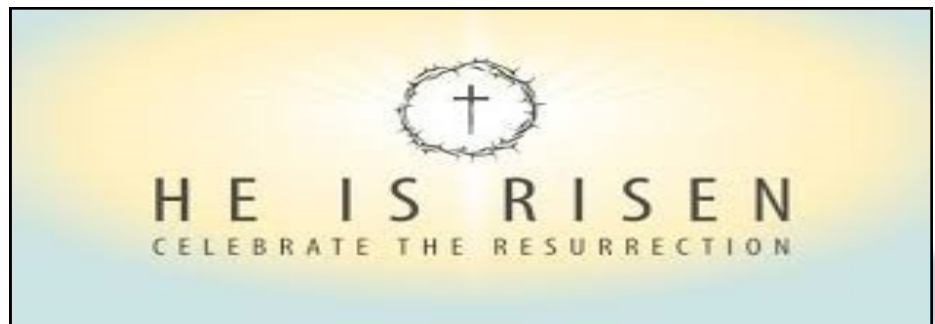


## PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

prayer, concentrated time for prayerful words, that's not possible all the time except maybe for people who have dedicated their entire life to ministry and prayer. But even those 'saints' would find it challenging, trust me! Let me go back to my original question: "Can we make prayer as easy as breathing?" And I think the key is to be in fact more connected to our body (breathing), and in our mind holding life and people before God. Helpful is a practice that centers you in prayer every day. Then live your life as mindfully as possible. Every breath can in fact be a prayer and you don't always need to know it. Our body does many things every second without us thinking about it. You don't think about breathing or pumping blood through your veins, thank God! The oldest part of our brain takes care of it. It's automatic.

I believe it is possible for people who practice prayer and mindfulness to develop this subconscious constant sense of prayerfulness as they go about their daily chores and work. It is a very advanced practice of spirituality, and I will tell you that I'm not even close to be in that category. But it's nice to have goals, even after all those years of ministry... Eventually, a spiritual person does most things in life in a prayerful way. It's like breathing...

*Pastor Andreas Wagner*



## Lenten Schedule 2023

**February 22: Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00 pm**  
Full service with communion and placing of the ashes

**March 1:** Evening Lenten Service, 7 pm (30 minutes)

**March 8:** Evening Lenten Service, 7 pm (30 minutes)

**March 15:** Evening Lenten Service, 7 pm (30 minutes)

**March 22:** Evening Lenten Service, 7 pm (30 minutes)

**March 29:** Evening Lenten Service, 7 pm (30 minutes)

## Holy Week 2023

**April 6:** Maundy Thursday Service, 7 pm

**April 7:** Good Friday Service, 7 pm

**April 9:** Easter Sunday

## PARISH UPDATES

No updates to report.

### A Tribute to my Father: Ernst Siegfried Wagner

*“A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.”*

Psalm 90: 4

*Dear church,*

I have so many stories and memories connected to my father, stories of the old times, stories that he told me on visits in recent years, some of them oft repeated. I always soaked them up. He was born in 1935 and experienced the great war from the vantage point of a little kid, watching fighter airplanes and bombers in the air heading for the big cities, young lads going off to fight, some of them never to return. He experienced the poverty of the postwar years, refugees knocking on his childhood home to get help from his father (the mayor) and working 16 hours a day as a young apprentice in the physically demanding butcher trade. The men on my father's side of the family were short and stocky. My dad fit that profile; in his younger years he was strong as a bull. I will admit that I was often scared of him as a child, scared to trigger his short temper, which was partly owed to the circumstances in which he grew up and then: hard work, little money, and a family of six to support. In 1969/1970 he built our family home, did the lion's share of the work himself and finished it in ten months without missing time on his paid job - by then in a steel mill. Some 30 years later the home was paid off. He modelled a strong work ethic for sure.



My parents came from humble farmer and working-class roots; they grew up in tight-knit village communities that gave them a strong sense of belonging, a set of sacred values and also a connection to faith and religion. I came of age in that kind of a place; it has shaped me to this day, no matter where I went from there. Now the death of my father marks the end of that era, the passing of a generation that we looked up to, second-guessed and probably didn't appreciate as much as we should have. Typical kids! When I think about that generation it strikes how many strong and colorful characters were among them and (am I unfair here???) how bland and sanitized the world has become. I tell you, those people who grew up in the post war years had edges and wonderful flaws. They could be cranky and unreasonable and stubborn in a wonderful way – wonderful, if you didn't happen to stand in their way. I don't know whether you understand what I mean, but it's the best way I can explain it...

My bull-headed father (the young version) mellowed significantly as he aged. His softer side was allowed to blossom in later years. By then he was secure enough to occasionally talk about the fears he faced and some of the regrets he had. He was given extra time on earth, an extra 22 or 23 years, a gift that I surely appreciated. On New Year's Day in 2000 or 2001 he had a massive heart attack and was brought back to life by the swift actions of a medical response team. He lived with a bad heart for half of his life. Amazingly, he was able to change his diet and lifestyle after that incident, something that I didn't think he had in him. He surprised us.

It always amazes me how fast life is changing. It seems like these few decades between his and my upbringing are like a thousand years. And it's the same with my own children. The world is changing fast. We can lament it, grieve it, embrace it, all at the same time. But we can't change it. I am happy that I was able to talk to him on Monday, the day before he passed. We had a nice, pleasant conversation. He asked to greet everybody in the family. We said "Tschuess." It was the last word I heard him say. But in the spiritual world, it is not the last word between us. He is now with God. My dad died on January 24, 2023 at the age of 87. Thanks be to God!

With gratitude,  
Pastor Andreas Wagner

## NEWS FROM OUR FRIENDS IN UKRAINE

We have good news from our friends in Ukraine on several fronts. First, the servicemen from the congregation who are defending their country are still alive and well at this point. We continue to pray for Oleg, Sergey, Igor, Andrey who are fighting for the freedom of Ukraine. Also, Pastor Ihor's congregation was able to purchase a plot of land near Kyiv as a site for a new ministry center. He mentioned two benefactors in particular: Diaconia Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren and St. Peter's Lutheran Church in North Wales. Among other things, Pastor Ihor posted pictures of people making candles to keep warm at night during power outages caused by Russian attacks. The resiliency and toughness of the people there is inspiring! We continue to support them and in fact sent a portion of our 2022 surplus to our friends in Ukraine in addition to the donations already sent in 2022.



Pastor Wagner and Bernie Heinze

## INTERGENERATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE WITH DARCHEI NOAM

**APRIL 18 7:00 PM**

This year, we would like to invite you and especially families of all ages to observe a Holocaust remembrance service with our friends at Darchei Noam in Ambler. More information will be shared as we move closer to the April 18 date. Rabbi Danielle Parmenter wrote this as she described the event:

*"As for the Holocaust program we would love to have your community join us. It will take place on Tuesday, April 18 with a speaker from 7-8:00 PM followed by a Yom Hashoah Memorial Service and candle-lighting from 8:00-8:30 pm. Our speaker for the evening is Richard Banks, a scholar of the Holocaust."*

Please mark your calendar. It would be nice to join this service with a big group from St. Peter's.

## WOMEN'S RETREAT

### We Are Back!

Save the date **October 28th 2023!**

Come join us for our 10th Women's retreat. It is held in our church building. The theme will be **Anchored in Faith**. Plan to join us on a seaworthy journey as we anchor at the ports of *Laughter, Grace, Joy, Benevolence, Creativity and Prayer*.

## LUTHERAN NIGHT AT THE PHILLIES

**June 7 at 7 pm**

The Phillies host the Cincinnati Reds. Look for more information and a sign-up sheet in the Narthex coming soon.

## MEN'S GROUP BREAKFAST

**March 18 8:00 AM**

The Men's Group will host a breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Please feel free to bring along a friend or family member. It's always good to see you and to have a chat. We will have the traditional eggs, hash browns, bagels and donuts, coffee, tea, juice and, of course, Diet Pepsi.

How are you at cooking? If you'd like to join me in the kitchen to make the eggs and hash browns, I'd be delighted to share the stove!

Please let me know if you will be able to attend the breakfast, are bringing anyone else with you, and would be willing to help cook! *Bernie*

## UPGRADES AT ST. PETER'S HISTORIC CEMETERY

Dear church members and friends,



As you must know by now, upgrades are coming to St. Peter's Cemetery, located on Main and Prospect Streets. Over the past year much needed work has been done on the boundary walls by Lauro Masonry. Security lights and signs were added. As I am writing this, TJ's Outdoor Maintenance is installing a walking path from the Prospect Entrance to the Columbarium, the part of the cemetery that is still in use. We have had services up there when people with mobility challenges weren't able to approach the columbarium. But we don't want to leave folks out. This path was carefully staked out as not to intrude on those who are resting in peace. It is furnished with pavers. We had originally favored a lesser option, a solid fine gravel path. TJ's was so generous as to offer us the paver upgrade without additional cost. The owner of TJ's, Tim Landmesser, has ties to St. Peter's and in fact his parents purchased a niche in our cemetery years ago. This path will enable people with walkers and wheelchairs to safely approach the site.

Eight historical markers will be added, highlighting some of the pioneers of our town who are buried there. We will also add memorial benches and smaller memorial trees. All of this comes with significant expenses that go well beyond regular maintenance. Therefore, we are kicking off a mini campaign on Sunday, February 12 to raise \$15,000 for these cemetery upgrades by Easter of this year (April 9) through one-time special donations. The total costs for our upgrades are between \$25,000 and \$30,000 but we are using some available funds. The historical markers for instance will be paid from our Memorial Fund.

We encourage people who are making plans for future funeral arrangements to consider our columbarium. The prices for a niche are listed below and they include the plaques that will be added later. A niche can hold up to two small urns.

Finally, you can help us on **Saturday, April 15**. On that day, there will be a cemetery spring clean-up from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. And stay tuned, because we are planning a special event to celebrate all these upgrades in the month of May.

On **Sunday, February 19**, we will kick off the cemetery mini campaign with a presentation, and lots of information, as well as our newly developed **cemetery brochure**.



TJ's Outdoor Services works in the cemetery. Owner Tim Landmesser is pictured second from the left.



### Columbarium Pricing

\$1,800 for members

\$2,800 for non-members

Niches hold two small urns & include the cost of name plaques.

\* prices subject to change

## 2023 CEMETERY MINI CAMPAIGN

- Consider making a one-time donation to our Cemetery Campaign Fund to raise \$15,000. You can use the envelopes in the pews or clearly label other donations or checks: "**Cemetery Campaign 2023**"
- Consider remembering a loved one via a Memorial Plaque on one of several benches we are adding to the cemetery. **Bench Plaques:** \$1,500.
- Consider purchasing a Memorial Plaque for one of the trees that we are adding to the cemetery grounds. **Tree Plaques:** \$500



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

The Family Faith department has been busy these last few months!

**Spark Sunday School** is taught each Sunday except the 1st Sunday of each month, allowing for families to worship together. Printouts of the lesson are available on the table with the bulletins. Thank you for our wonderful volunteers, Darin Gross, Suzanne Shafer, and Gretchen Flanagan. We follow the liturgical calendar and teach children what is being taught in the worship services.

**Vacation Bible School** is back this year on July 17-20 nightly from 7-8:30 pm! We are actively seeing teachers, decorators or assistants! If you can't do it each night, that's fine! Any help is a help! See Mrs. B

**The Youth Ministry** meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month with Mr. Gross.

See Mrs. B if you are interested in any of the following Youth & Teen events:

- ⇒ **Box City** Joe Browne will lead this event on March 11-12
- ⇒ **Youth Retreat** March 24-26
- ⇒ **Appalachia Trip** with South Eastern PA Synod (SEPA) Youth, July 7-8.

**Confirmation Class** continues to meet each Sunday. A Confirmation Service will be held on **Sunday, May 21st**.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
JULY 17 - 20

Volunteers Needed  
Volunteers Needed  
Volunteers Needed

Join the Fun!

Jenn needs help with  
decorating, teaching, & assisting.

Reach out if you can help.

FOOD TRUCK PARTY

ON A ROLL WITH GOD!

The poster features a stylized food truck and picnic table illustration.

RAISE AWARENESS • CHANGE PERSP  
ECTIVES • BUILD COMPASSION • UNDE  
STAND BETTER • SEE DIFFERENTLY

**BOX CITY**  
Youth Event

March 11 - 12, 2023

For Youth Grades 6-8  
A SEPA multi-congregation Bible School at  
St. James Lutheran Church, 19 Kupper Rd.  
Lanesville, VA

8pm Start  
Registration: Spots are Available  
Details on Website: <http://boxcityyouth.org>

Box City is Back!

**FOR YOUTH  
GRADES 6 - 12**

See Mrs. B. for information

We need adult volunteers - if  
interested see Jenn

**ASP**  
Appalachia  
SERVICE PROJECT®

SEPAs  
KY VA  
TN NC  
ASP Service Area

**SUMMER  
SERVANT  
TRIP FOR  
YOUTH  
6 - 12  
GRADE**

SEPAs 2023 SUMMER MISSION TRIP  
JULY 1 - JULY 8

SEE JENN BODOLUS IF INTERESTED

South Eastern Pennsylvania Synod ELCA

# A MESSAGE FROM SAM TARASENKO MUSIC MINISTER



## The Subtle Art of Organ Improvisation

Improvisation begets composition. It is the foundation of great musicianship because it combines restraint through form with unplanned aleatoric creation. If I lost you with my mumbo jumbo, allow me to explain: improvisation takes a lot of practice to get good at. You can't just fake it. You have to submit to rules of harmony, counterpoint, and form while making it sound entirely spontaneous. At the end of an improvised piece, it has to come together in a seamless and emotionally satisfying way. The coolest thing about improvisation is that it involves the listeners way more than a through composed piece does. You as a listener unwittingly act as a co-creator in the music. If the improviser loses the listeners' attention, that means there is something dishonest in the improvisation. If there is silence you can slice with a knife, the process of creation happened down to the quantum level. Again, this takes discipline and restraint. If the musician has a big ego, their improvisation sounds like showing off. Conversely, a good improviser senses where the listeners are at and invites them on a journey to fathom the music's endless possibilities.

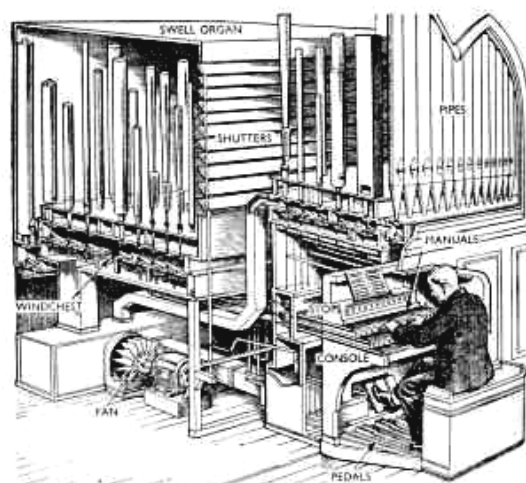
When I improvise around a hymn melody, I try to submit to the text and bring it to life. Bach is my greatest inspiration. His improvisations gave birth to some of the greatest music humanity has heard. When he went to the court of Frederick II of Prussia in 1747—a flutist of great ability—he astounded all the listeners by taking the king's melody (an odd, brooding melody with lots of half steps intentionally written to stump Bach) and turning it into an improvised five-voice fugue. That took equal guts and brains. Of course, Bach was inspired by the great organ tradition of 17th century Germany by

giants like Pachelbel, Bohm, and Buxtehude, the latter of which he traveled hundreds of miles by foot just to hear improvise. When he came back, his improvisations took on a greater form unlike anything done before. Rest assured, people complained. His improvisations did not often go over well with the church authorities and he even found himself imprisoned for his intransigence.

Though I'm not Bach, I look to the past for inspiration. Church music should never be stale. The music within the church here on Earth is a reflection of its highest values. When music bores listeners or discourages active participation, it proves the church lost touch with its inherent message of joy and salvation. In light of the down dressing of church music after the 1960s, particularly after the Second Vatican Council, many organists have resisted church music's simplification through continuing the tradition of improvisation. Over the summer, I had the privilege of hearing various organists play. I was most inspired by the organist at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Germantown—a mission church with an Anglican liturgy—who used jazz improvisation between hymn verses. The congregation stood through it all and afterwards spoke of the organist with unfeigned ebullience. They ate it up! I thank God that there are people restoring hymn playing to its former glory and pushing congregations to rethink their approach to worship.

I hope to write more articles on this topic. Equally, I hope I didn't sound too esoteric in my writing. Know that as a listener, you are a co-creator. Sometimes, my improvisation won't hit the mark. But, with enough humility and the Holy Ghost's fairy magic, we can collectively create a worship experience mindful of the past, relevant to the present's needs, and unrestrainedly creative in the future.

Warmly,  
Sam



## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

So proud of this group and community!!

We've already collected 96 units so far in 2022 – so that's saved 288 lives and we are at 101% of our goal YTD.

Thank you to all who are willing and able to support the blood drives!!!

**Monday**

**Feb 20**

**2 pm - 7pm**

**For appointments  
please go to:**

**[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)**

**Enter sponsor code:  
St. Peters North Wales**

**Upcoming Drives:**

**June 5  
July 17**



## ST. PETER'S SOCIAL MINISTRY UPDATES

### InterFaith Hospitality Network 2023

June will be here before we know it! St Peter's will once again participate in the InterFaith Hospitality network and partner with area congregations and Family Promise MontCo PA to provide emergency shelter for local families experiencing homelessness. Our Social Ministry team hopes all members of our congregations will consider volunteering or providing support to the families while they are staying with us this year. Opportunities will include:

- ◆ Set-up and clean-up of our spaces in the building for the program.
- ◆ Meal Providers - prepare and drop off meals or share them with the families at church
- ◆ Shopping Helpers - take families to supermarket to pick up basic supplies using donated gift cards
- ◆ Evening Helpers - check in on the families in the evening to ensure they have what they need and that the building is secure
- ◆ Transportation Volunteers - transport families between the Family Promise Day Center in Amber and St. Peter's in the morning or the evening
- ◆ Financial Support - grocery gift cards for the families or funds for fuel to operate the Family Promise van

Over 50 volunteers provided support for the program last year! If you have any questions about the program or would like to volunteer, please contact Brian Brenfleck or Robin Alderfer.

### Update on our friends from **New Creation Lutheran Church.**

A large delivery was made in November to the church of food, clothing, and blankets. The food and some of the clothing was given to the members of New Creation. What they can't use along with the blankets were then handed out to the homeless in the area. St. Peter's sent a check to help New Creation renovate the apartment next to the church. A work day was held to help with the work. A small but mighty group worked on floor in the bathroom, painting, dry wall patching, and moving old appliances out. There is still a lot of work to be done but we are getting there. If you interested in helping with a work day. Please let us know.

If you have any questions on any of our projects or would like to help with any of them please contact Robin 610-277-8378

**The Thrift Shop**

Wednesdays  
9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Saturdays  
9:00 am to 1:00 pm



## St. Peter's Readers

A group of women who meet on a Tuesday (about every 5-6 weeks) at 11:30 am in the church parlor. Here is our anticipated reading discussion schedule through July 2023. Contact Charlene at [cmbance@gmail.com](mailto:cmbance@gmail.com) if you would like to join us or have a question.

- **February 28: *Everything I Never Told You*** by Celeste Ng  
"Wonderfully moving...A beautifully crafted study of dysfunction and grief." — *The Boston Globe*
- **March 28: *Dear Marcus: A letter to the Man Who Shot Me*** by Jerry McGill
- **May 2: *The Engineer's Wife*** by Tracey Emerson Wood
- **June 13: *The ExtraOrdinary Life of Sam Hell*** by Robert Dugan
- **July 25: *The Next Ship Home*** by Heather Webb



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## Thrift Shop News

The hard-working volunteers of St. Peter's Thrift Shop are sorting merchandise, and arranging the treasures as we prepare for Spring sales. We are currently decorated for Valentine's day and we will be adding green for St. Patrick's day. We still have some winter clothing including some great coats, but all of that will be replaced soon with our spring and summer clothing. We are still accepting donations, so please think of us as you start your spring cleaning.

We are also happy to tell you that our expanded online presence thanks to the amazing talents of our own Lisa Miller has helped us bring in lots of new shoppers. Check out our Facebook page and make sure you get on our email list.

Speaking of new people, we would LOVE to welcome some new volunteers to our Thrift Shop community! If you have a few hours a month we could really use some help during the hours our shop is open to the public. Four hours per month on a Wednesday or a Saturday would be very helpful if you have the time. If you are interested, send a message through FB or email. Stop by and see us on Wednesday 9:30 to 4:30 or Saturday 9:00 to 1:00. You can also stop by on a Tuesday morning from 9:30 to 12:00 to drop off donations talk to someone about volunteering. Thank you for your continuing support of this important ministry.

## St. Peter's Green Team

### Plastic Challenge

St. Peter's Green Team is challenging us all to reduce our use of plastics. Three hundred million tons of plastic is produced annually, half of which is single use. Most plastic is not recyclable and the vast majority does not biodegrade. Every bit of plastic made is still in existence in some form. Plastic products often break down into very small fragments called micro plastics that can pollute ecosystems, harm organisms and end up in our food chain and water supply. Please pick up a pledge card in the narthex, sign to reduce or eliminate use of plastics and put it on the tree there. Each one of us helping is important for our future generations.

### Eco-Friendly Policy

for Users of St. Peter's Facilities

*The Earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.*

Psalm 24:1

We recognize the importance of being stewards of creation and environmentally responsible.

- ◆ Use the kitchen's dishware, cups and stainless cutlery whenever possible. (Alternative: paper or biodegradable cups, plates, cutlery & napkins)
- ◆ Encourage people to bring their own refillable water bottle and/or provide pitchers of water with the kitchen's cups or paper cups.
- ◆ Recycle plastic water bottles. Discard recyclable items in the marked containers
- ◆ No use of Styrofoam cups, plates or containers.
- ◆ No use of **plastic** plates, cups, cutlery, straws or beverage stirrers.

### Caring for God's Creation®

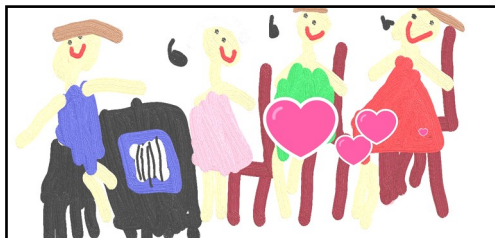




**Here is the church, here is the steeple, open the doors, and see all the people!**



**Jenny Wonder joins her father George and the choir to sing "I Choose Love." Below is her rendering of choir practice featuring director Sam Tarsenko at the piano.**



**Ben Clark had fun on the pulpit. His white sweatshirt could almost pass as a liturgical alb. Well, almost. Preach it, Ben!**



**This is our oldest church member, Florence Ulrich. Florence turned 99 in February and resides at the Peter Becker Home.**



**Dave & Oga Smith celebrating their 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary.**



**Pat and Rick Hagy received a wonderful surprise visit from granddaughters and great-grandchildren during a recent service. They travelled all the way from Bristol and Philadelphia.**



**On a home visit with Boris and Joanne Borichevsky. They joined our church last fall. Boris' dad was a Russian Orthodox priest who served for the longest time in Philadelphia. Boris and Joanne have two adult sons and met when they both worked at the Airforce Navy Base in Willow Grove.**



**New members of the church. At the home of Karen Haber (center, standing). The matriarch of the family, Betty Rogers, is smiling in the front. On the left is Elizabeth (Liz) with her baby Nola and to the right her sister Melissa.**



**Diana Blum shares between service smiles with some of the Arena gang.**

### COFFEE HOUR



**Steve Moyer and Nancy Simons**



**Scott Zenker and Ted Riesz**



**Jim Friling and Nancy Zeigler**



Acyn & Blake Auxier  
Bryan Auxier  
Tom Brauman  
Buzz Bray  
Joyce Chaffee  
Tracy Cicala  
Vickie Concepcion  
Becky Cuccuzza  
Elin Detweiler  
James Doherty  
The Dunn Family  
Toni Durian  
Kristi Farmer  
Marion Feathers  
Fred Friling  
John Foster

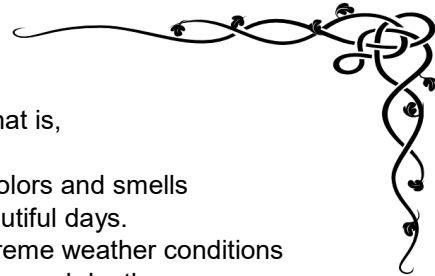
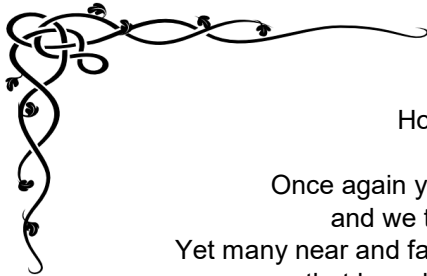
Joan Gauker  
Jenny George  
Barbara Glover  
Eric Gutsche  
Pat Hagy  
Renaë Hayden  
Ruth Herbert  
Angie Herman  
Janet Hoffman  
Billy Kane  
Richard Kaufman  
Herb Kavash  
Pam & Maureen Kinzinger  
Leo Kirschner  
RJ Krieswicki  
Ian Iantanishen  
Lenihan Family  
John Lopresti  
Lyman Lundeen  
Cindy Mancuso  
Leona Marchakitus  
Michael Mattoi  
Carlos Malave

Lilly Meade  
Richard McCune  
Lilia McGovern  
Jan Miller  
Jon Miller  
Joe Mitterhur  
Bill Myers  
Sally Neiderhiser  
Arlene Novak  
Barbara Nyce  
Mike O'Hanlon  
Kirk Olson  
Kirsten Olson  
Eve & Bryn Phelps  
Jay Resnick  
Yolanda Romero  
Kurt Schwarz  
Rev. Ihor & Olga  
Shemihon  
Bruce Simons  
Fred & Jen Snively  
Diesel Stockton  
Rob Strauss

Marlene Tegge  
George Uhl  
Florence Ulrich  
Dale Underwood  
Renaë Urban  
Sam Wagner  
The Wagner Family  
Larry Whittaker  
Barbara Wiedman  
Sheila Wilkins  
Charles Zajatz  
Nancy Zeigler

AA members

People suffering from illness, depression, anxiety, natural disaster, violence, or uncertainty in their lives, especially the people of the Ukraine, Turkey & Syria.



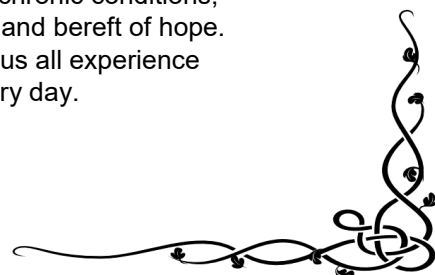
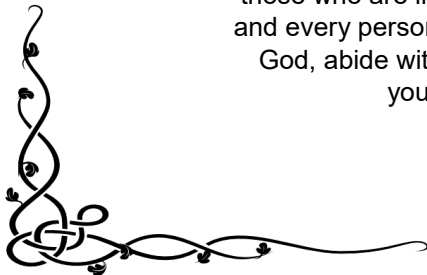
Holy God, Creator of all that is,

Once again you delight us with fall colors and smells  
and we thank you for crisp, beautiful days.  
Yet many near and far, are experiencing extreme weather conditions  
that have brought destruction, loss, and death.  
On perfect days it is easy to forget the suffering of others.  
Lord, help us to be present for them; to be a source  
of help and hope as they seek to rebuild their lives.

Lord, we continue to pray for peace in our country  
and our world and for wisdom among the world's leaders as they  
guide us through difficult times.

Hear our prayers also for all on our prayer lists  
and those who care for them;  
those who are ill, those struggling with chronic conditions,  
and every person who feels diminished and bereft of hope.  
God, abide with them and us, and let us all experience  
your healing presence every day.

Amen.



**We invite you to join us in prayer St. Peter's Prayer Ministry each month.**  
For information contact Anita Bailey at 610-836-2210

*wishing you a*  
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**February**

- Jo Borichevsky .....Feb 01
- Lindy Kolb .....Feb 01
- Nathan Heilman .....Feb 02
- Keith Bance .....Feb 04
- Ashley Destefano .....Feb 04
- Helga Ledder .....Feb 05
- Malcolm Tang .....Feb 05
- Lilly Turner .....Feb 05
- Thea Johnson .....Feb 08
- Nora Staudt .....Feb 08
- Grace Paek .....Feb 10
- Ted Riesz .....Feb 11
- Bill Gutsche .....Feb 12
- Dwight Homan .....Feb 13
- Charles Hayes .....Feb 14
- Ryan Beahan .....Feb 15
- Cindy Heist .....Feb 16
- Emily Gross .....Feb 17
- Jayson Troxel .....Feb 17
- Inge Coleman .....Feb 19
- Andrea Walter .....Feb 19
- America Lara-Worman ...Feb 20
- Lyla Diehl .....Feb 22
- Brynne Gallagher .....Feb 24
- Eve Phelps .....Feb 25
- Sean Dallas .....Feb 26
- Judy Coates .....Feb 27
- Kevin DeStefano .....Feb 28
- Austin Hain .....Feb 28
- Martha Heinze .....Feb 28\*

**March**

- Avery Charles .....Mar 01
- Audrey Kratz .....Mar 01
- Catalina Bergey .....Mar 05
- Diana Sundar .....Mar 05
- Brian Brenfleck .....Mar 06
- Tara Longwill .....Mar 06
- John Meyer .....Mar 08
- Paul Shaffer .....Mar 08
- Vicki Turner .....Mar 08
- Brian Bergey .....Mar 10
- Chris Mannon .....Mar 10
- Dave Smith .....Mar 10
- Lars Homan .....Mar 12
- Violet Henderson .....Mar 13
- Lily Shaffer .....Mar 13
- Dave Long .....Mar 14
- Ruth Donnelly .....Mar 15
- Lynda Cipriano .....Mar 16
- Karen Whelihan .....Mar 16
- Dale English .....Mar 17
- Paul Worman-Lara .....Mar 17
- Anita Bailey .....Mar 18
- Neil Berger .....Mar 21
- Carson Baker .....Mar 22
- Ethan Baker .....Mar 22
- Sharon Baker .....Mar 22
- Cindy Coslet .....Mar 22
- Pat Reca .....Mar 24
- Robert Woods .....Mar 24
- Nancy Simpson .....Mar 25
- Matthew Brenfleck .....Mar 27
- Eric Jacobson .....Mar 27
- Terry Riesz .....Mar 28
- Bernie Heinze .....Mar 29
- Erik Nelson .....Mar 29
- Garrett Roberts .....Mar 29
- Pat Hagy .....Mar 30

**April**

- Stacy Beahan .....Apr 02
- Dominic Destefano .....Apr 02
- Vincent Alunni .....Apr 04
- Jimmy Blum .....Apr 04
- Shelby McCarty .....Apr 04
- Byrn Phelps .....Apr 04
- Carson Hain .....Apr 05
- Amy Michaud .....Apr 06
- Kim Pavia .....Apr 06
- Ben Clark .....Apr 08
- Elizabeth Dallas .....Apr 08
- Linda Baker .....Apr 09
- Joyce Chaffee .....Apr 09
- Stuart Michaud .....Apr 09
- Ginny Bailey .....Apr 10
- Lisa Cooper .....Apr 10
- Mari Duffy-Rourke .....Apr 10
- Mary Parrott .....Apr 12
- Samuel Pavia .....Apr 13
- Devin Mannon .....Apr 14
- John Rittenhouse .....Apr 15
- Kyrstyn Streckfus .....Apr 16
- Kirsten Olson .....Apr 17
- Jackson Shaffer .....Apr 17
- Patricia Coslet .....Apr 19
- Allison Gross .....Apr 19
- Nora Salerno .....Apr 19
- Crystal Arena .....Apr 21
- Stephanie Heilman .....Apr 21
- Kenny Graham .....Apr 22
- Eric Gutsche .....Apr 24
- John MacInnes .....Apr 24
- Phoenix Woods .....Apr 24
- Olga Smith .....Apr 25
- Samuel Wagner .....Apr 25
- Liz Salerno .....Apr 26
- Shamala Sundar .....Apr 26
- Peter Wagner .....Apr 26
- Maryann Gerhart .....Apr 28
- TomDunn .....Apr 30

*2023 items in 2023*

St. Peter's  
**FOOD DRIVE**  
Ash Wednesday thru Palm Sunday



- Cereal
- Rice
- Canned Beans
- Canned Fruits
- Peanut Butter
- Crackers
- Coffee & Tea
- Pancake Mix
- Vegetable Oil
- Pasta
- Tomato Sauce
- Canned Meat, Chicken, & Sausage
- Juices
- Canned Corn, Green Beans, & Mixed Vegetables



# You Made the Holidays Bright!

Your generous support helped Gemma fulfill the holiday wishes of hundreds of kids and families this year.

## Thank You!



150+ individuals, businesses, congregations, and organizations helped Gemma make hope shine this holiday season!

130+ families and 385+ children received presents and gift cards you generously donated.



Volunteers wrapped 500+ gifts and stuffed 50+ stockings for children served by our Residential Program.



 **gemma** | where  
SERVICES | hope  
shines

[www.gemmaservices.org](http://www.gemmaservices.org)



SANCTUARY UMC  
Community  
**HEALTH AND  
WELLNESS  
FAIR**

**Saturday,  
April 22nd from  
10am - 2pm**

at Sanctuary UMC  
1346 East Prospect Ave  
North Wales, PA 19454

**Get Free  
Screenings &  
Information**

**Come to our Free Community Health Fair !  
Screenings, Resources and Giveaways from  
local partners and healthcare  
organizations!**

**For more information:  
215-699-9331 or [info@sanctuarychurch.org](mailto:info@sanctuarychurch.org)**

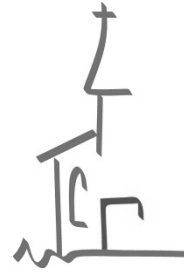
*Blood pressure  
Women's health  
Dental health  
Senior health  
Nutrition  
and so much more!*

Saint Peter's

Evangelical Lutheran Church

211 South Main Street

North Wales, PA 19454



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Return Service Requested

It is the Mission of St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
to invite all people to

**K**now, **L**ive, and **S**hare

*JESUS CHRIST*