



St. Peter's Lutheran

1130 St. Peters Road
Lexington SC 29072
803-359-2470

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 9 am-6 pm
Friday 9 am—Noon
www.StPetersLexSC.org

Ministry Team

The Rev. Dr. Judson F. Merrell, STS
"Pastor Judson" Senior Pastor
JudsonMerrell@bellsouth.net
Cell: 704-798-4280

The Rev. Cassandra L. Boehringer
"Pastor Cassie" Associate Pastor
pastorcassieb@gmail.com
Cell: 678-492-3956

Clay Morell
Youth & Young Adult Director
StpetersYAYA@gmail.com
Cell: 803-447-8124

Craig Davis
Matins Choir & Instrumental Director

Kayla Ellingson
Angel Choir Director

Lauren Henry & Penni Henry
Nursery Attendants

Barry Moore
Chancel Choir & Handbells Director

Valerie Porth
Bookkeeper

Molly Teem
SonShine Choir Director

Carol Wyndham
Administrative Coordinator
Organist/Accompanist
admin@stpeterslexsc.org
Cell: 803-360-7137

What Message Are You Sending?

I recently saw a church sign that said, "New Year! New You!" My car kept driving past but it brought me pause. It just wasn't right. I thought, wow, there's no mention of Jesus in there. If we put that sign in its best light, even brighter than a South Carolina sunrise, we might suggest they're talking about the "new you" that Jesus brings you through being forgiven in Him. Thankfully, after looking around that particular church is actively involved in prayer, Bible study, and missions.

Sometimes we mean well by what we say, but an unintended message is sent. On the other hand, maybe we read too much into things. A pastor mentor of mine used to tell me whatever you say in your sermons, make sure you clearly proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I love that. I've heard plenty of great sermons though which the Spirit moved in my heart, but not all sermons plainly spell out the Good News.

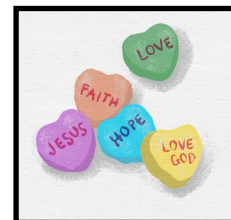
Perhaps we might take the example of that less-than-perfect church sign to our own lives as followers of Christ. We might be quirky, dress differently, or not "from around here". We might have those "foot in your mouth" incidents from time to time. We mean well, but we're human, and that's okay.

What else about you might show people the Good News of Jesus? It's the hot meal you dropped off to your sick neighbor. It's letting the mom with wiggly children in line ahead of you at the grocery store check-out. It's the "How have you been doing?" text to your friend you haven't heard from lately. It's showing up, but more than that, it's showing Jesus.

St. Francis of Assisi said it well: "Preach the Gospel at all times, and, when necessary, use words."

Blessings!

Pastor Cassie



CHURCH BUSINESS

St. Peter's By the Numbers

January 1—December 31, 2025*

Gen. Fund Contributions YTD	\$ 688,967.32
General Fund Spent YTD	\$ 702,588.87
Difference YTD	- \$ 13,521.55

Please give to the GENERAL FUND because that is what pays EVERY EXPENSE at the church. Thank you!

I'M LOST. WHAT ARE ALL OF THESE INITIALS?

CR=Conference Room (in office building)

FH=Fellowship Hall (downstairs)

GR=Gathering Room (behind PLC)

PLC=Parish Life Center (big windows)

SH=Scout Hut (in back of cemetery)

YR=Youth Room (upstairs)

But God
demonstrates

his own love

for us in this:

While we were
still sinners,

Christ died
FOR US.

Romans 5:8, NIV

Ministry Highlights

by Donna Alford

Church Council met January 18 @ 3 pm.

Absent: Rachel Price & Paul Schreiber

- **Bus/Van:** Committee decided tires should be replaced every 5 years to avoid dry rot & maintain highest level of safety. The bus is due for tires. Quotes are being collected & we will get them done this month. Jason Williams has received two quotes & is awaiting a 3rd.
- **Cemetery:** 2026 meeting dates & work dates set.
- **Education:** Donna Shealy & PC are looking for new literature for the preschool class. Pastor Cassie is planning activities & gatherings for babies thru 5th grade & their parents.
- **Evangelism:** planning for Shrove Tues., Feb. 17
- **Homecoming:** May 3rd after worship.
- **Kitchen:** Supplies have been ordered for the year. In the process of updating Kitchen use.
- **Property & Grounds:** working on two major projects for 2026—upgrade track lights to LED and repair and secure ceiling in Sanctuary. Thank you to Property for setting up/taking down manger scene.
- **Safety:** responded well to recent issues during worship. Thank you!
- **Scouts:** Scout Sunday is February 8. Pinewood Derby & Spaghetti Fundraiser will be February 22.
- **Service:** Relay for Life is May 1st. Looking for a new person to coordinate this event. Collecting pet food for Mission Lexington.
- **Worship & Music:** Soup Supper is Feb. 1st. Mini Music Camp is April 18; Music Camp July 17-19.
- **Youth:** orders being taken for Chicken Bog ski trip fundraiser. Young Adult Mission Trip to Canada. Youth to Murrells Inlet in April.

Next meeting is February 15 @ 3 pm

PUBLISHING DEADLINES:

Bulletin—Noon on Wednesdays
Proclaimer—15th of every month
Prayer List—5 pm on Wednesdays

CHURCH BUSINESS

Funds	December Fund Totals
General	\$ 90,218.96
Boy Scouts	\$ 660.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$ 850.00
David Davis	\$ 190.00
Electronic Sign	\$ 250.00
Endowment	\$ 24,220.00
Loving Group-Betty Lou	\$ 190.00
Maintenance	\$ 2,910.00
Mission Lexington	\$ 670.10
Missions Market	\$ 324.00
Music Ministry	\$ 300.00
Safety Ministry	\$ 600.00
School Supplies	\$ 250.00
Snack Sacks	\$ 2,710.00
SPLC Disaster Relief	\$ 285.00
Tartu Seminary	\$ 100.00
Hunger- Noisy Offering	\$ 477.19
Youth Ministry	\$ 1,530.00
Stan Whiteside Memorial	\$ 750.00
Wayne Whiteside Memorial	\$ 1,325.00
TOTAL GIVING for December	\$ 128,810.25

SAVE THE DATES

Feb. 1—Soup Supper @ 6 pm
Feb. 17—Pancake Supper @ 6 pm
Feb. 18—Ash Wednesday Worship @ 11:15 am & 7 pm
Feb. 21—Cemetery Clean-Up @ 9 am
Feb. 21—Pinewood Derby/PLC
Feb. 22—Scouts Spaghetti Lunch / PLC
Feb. 24—Loving Group @ 10:30 am
Feb. 25—Lenten Worship @ 11:15 am & 7 pm
Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25—Lenten Worship @ 11:15 am & 7 pm
Mar. 7—Ladies Retreat/PLC
Mar. 21—Cemetery Clean-up @ 9 am
Mar. 28—Bunny Bash / PLC
Mar. 29—Palm Sunday Worship
Mar. 31—Loving Group @ 10:30 am
Apr. 2 —Maundy Thursday Worship
Apr. 3—Good Friday Worship
Apr. 5—Easter Worship

LUTHERAN MEN NEWS

At our November meeting, we decided to make a few changes. We moved our meetings to Thursday nights & will meet quarterly instead of monthly. We will continue to sponsor the Scouting program, honor our veterans, and build ramps and do light construction as needed for church members. All men are welcome!

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 5th @ 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Meal: Something wonderful & filling

Program: *The Heavens Are Telling* presented by our own Martin Bowers, Intern of the Great Gazoo @ USC Observatory



EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW...

...but were afraid to ask.

This Month: Coffee Time

So, you want to host but aren't sure what's involved. Here's what you need to know.

- * Any group or committee is welcome to host.
- * Pick your Sunday and sign up on the sheets in the PLC Kitchen.
- * It's easier with friends, so grab a couple of other families to help. If you are new and don't know lots of folks, call Pastor Cassie or Carol (or grab them at Coffee Time) and they'll help with introductions. This is a great way to get to meet your church family!**
- * The menu is up to you! Coffee, doughnuts & juice are fine, or you can get crazy and have grits and casseroles. We've even had corndogs—so the sky's the limit.
- * Coffee is provided by the church. The coffee maker is tricky, so if you don't know how to operate it, Landis Sandel or Larry James will be happy to teach you.
- * All plates, cups, napkins, and plastic wear are provided by the church.
- * Clean up is your responsibility. Wipe off tables and clean any big messes on the floor. Please take home any dish cloths or towels and wash and return them.

If you have other questions call Landis Sandel (608-2957) or Larry James (606-5565).

**Another great way to meet folks is to serve with them in Ministry (like being a greeter). Join a choir, join a Sunday School class, sit with folks you don't know at Coffee Time, or come to one of our many "family" gatherings. Don't let the folks that go to a different worship service be strangers. We're all family!





MUSIC MINISTRY



Soup
Supper

Join us
**Sunday,
February 1st
6 pm—Parish
Life Center**

If you are new to our church and have never attended our annual **Soup Supper**, then you are in for a treat! The members of our Worship & Music Committee each make a pot of soup or stew. We'll have everything from Barry's Cheeseburger Soup to Marion's Liver Nips. The congregation brings the sides. This year's assignments are:

A-H brings Salads

I-P brings Desserts

Q-Z brings Sandwiches

We will have some fun entertainment from our music department including some things you might not hear from us on a Sunday morning. It's a chance for us to let our hair down...except for Barry, of course.

Join us for the best party of the year!

It's Time to Join the Choir!

This is a great time of year to join one of our choirs! Christmas is over & we will start working on music for Lent & Easter in the next few weeks.

Matins Choir: leads worship at 8:30 am & meets on Monday nights at 6:30 pm for rehearsal. They gather on Sunday mornings @ 8 am to go over the Psalm & the anthem. Craig Davis is the director.

Chancel Choir: leads worship for our 11 am worship. They meet Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm and Sundays @ 10:15 am for rehearsals. Barry Moore is director for this group.

Handbells: play several times during the year. They meet for rehearsals on Sundays @ 4 pm. Barry Moore directs this group.

Instrumentalists: are needed during the year at various occasions. If you are proficient and willing, please contact Craig Davis.

I will sing
OF THE GOODNESS OF GOD



Evangelism Ministry

Invites you to



* S H R O V E * T U E S D A Y *

PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 17th @ 6 pm in PLC

Join us for pancakes, eggs, sausage, grits, juice, milk, coffee, & a **WHOLE LOT OF FUN!** The Balloon Man will join us and the Gilbert High School Jazz Band will provide the entertainment.

New members since last year's Pancake Supper will be **introduced**. (They will be wearing name tags so we can learn their names. Please wear the nametag provided so they can learn our names as well. No, there is not a test at the end.)

We will also be collecting donations of canned vegetables and soups of all kinds for Mission Lexington.

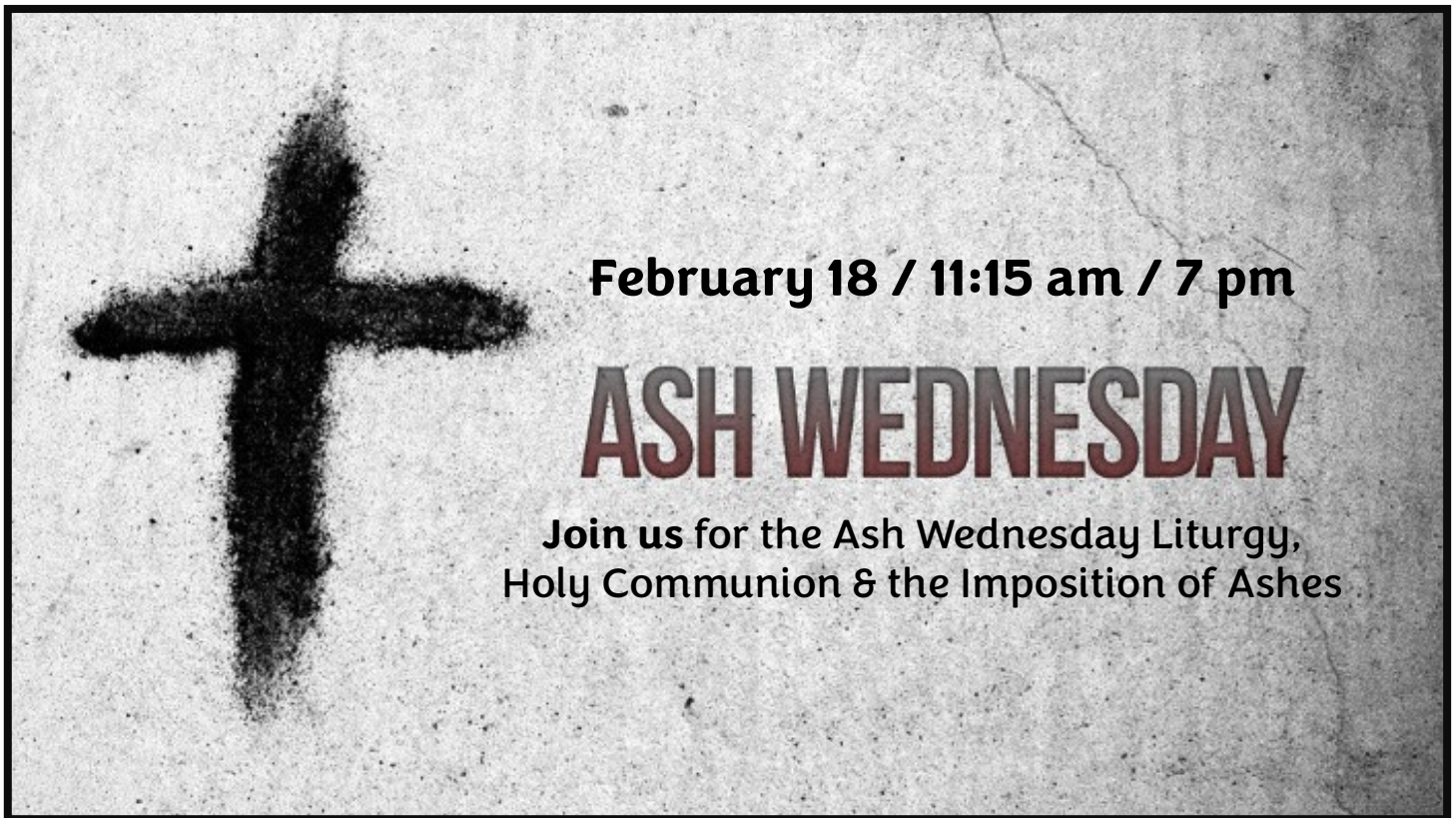
Monetary donations are always welcome!

Don't miss the fun!



LENTEN SCHEDULE

Join us as we observe the somber sounds of the Lenten Season. We cannot fully appreciate the glory of Easter without first going to the cross.



MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP will be held February 25, March 4, 11, 18, & 25 at 11:15 am and 7 pm in the Sanctuary.



**Palm
Sunday**
March

29

8:30 am & 11 am



**Maundy
Thursday**
April

2

11:15 am & 7 pm



**Good
Friday**
April

3

11:15 am & 7 pm



**Easter
Sunday**
April

5

7 am & 11 am

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Women of the Bible Put
Their Best Foot Forward

Speaker: Sharon Wilharm

Saturday, March 7, 2026

9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Parish Life Center

[Click here to register.](#)

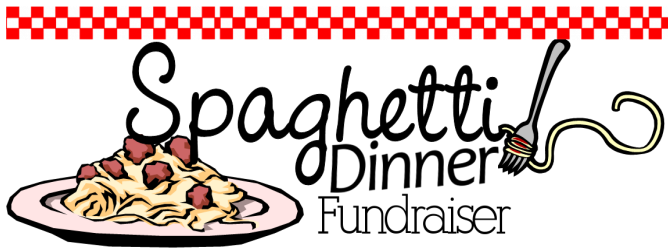
We will be taking hats to Burnsville, NC in February.

If you have completed hats or have yarn you need to return,
please put them in the Fellowship Hall.

Call Brenda Hedgecock with questions.



ODDS 'N' ENDS



**Sunday, February 22nd
After morning Worship**

Take your plates to go or stay and watch us run the Pinewood Derby.

All proceeds will go towards activities for Pack & Troop 309.



**Sunday, February 22nd
After morning Worship**

You are invited to join Pack 309 for our Annual Pinewood Derby. You can build a car & compete or come for lunch and watch the Scouts have fun.

To build a car & participate in the Derby, contact Jason Williams @803-917-5431.

Relay for Life—May 1, 2026

6-10 pm @ LHS

We are looking for a coordinator for the St. Peter's Team! If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Rachel Price for more details.



THANK YOU NOTES

Dear St. Peter's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent donation! As you know, we serve as a "home away from home" for families who have children receiving critical care at our local hospitals.

Last year we were able to save our families over \$1.1 million in food, lodging, & transportation thanks to generous supporters like you. Please know how much we appreciate you choosing us to benefit from your gift!

Warmest Wishes,

Ashle B. Barr

Director of Community Development

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Cola., SC

Dear Pastor Merrell,

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of those we serve at the ministries of Lutheran Homes of S.C. which include Franke at Seaside, the Heritage at Lowman, Rice Estate, Rose-Crest, Trinity on Laurens, Lutheran Hospice, and BeWell Home Services. Your partnership is vital to achieving our mission of enhancing the well-being of older adults.

We remain blessed by St. Peter's mission to support those in need!

Peace & Blessings!

Ernest L. Beck

President & CEO

Lutheran Homes of S.C.

Dear St. Peter's Lutheran Church,

YOU ARE AMAZING! Even when life is a bit overwhelming during the holiday season, St. Peter's church family takes time to care for child abuse victims to heal and thrive! On behalf of the courageous children who will walk through our doors this year, **THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

Because you chose to give, child abuse victims can have access to a safe place where they can share their trauma, receive medical care, and therapeutic interventions at no cost. **You help provide the hope, safety, & healing every child deserves.**

Thank you for standing with us in the fight against child abuse in our community. Your generosity is changing lives and restoring futures.

Gratefully yours,

Flavia West, Executive Director

Dickerson Children's Advocacy Center



SERVING IN FEBRUARY

	February 1	February 8	February 15	February 22
Acolyte Early	Volunteer Appreciated	Lilly Johnson	Volunteer Appreciated	Volunteer Appreciated
Late	Adam Ellisor	Jack Carlton	Volunteer Appreciated	Camryn Merrell
Altar Flowers	Michael & Natalie Carter	Ed & Brenda Hedgecock	Rusty & Kim Massey	Lent—No Flowers
Altar Guild	Linda Gable, Camryn Merrell, Hayden Porth, and Barbara Weed			
Bulletins	Russell & Robin Rawl			
Coffee Time	Volunteers Appreciated	Jean Hundley & Crew	Volunteers Appreciated	Volunteers Appreciated
Communion Servers Early	Bread: Pastor Judson Wine: Pastor Cassie	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Scouts	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Brenda Hedgecock Ellen Knehans	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Donna Alford Judy Nichols
Late	Bread: Pastor Judson Wine: Pastor Cassie	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Scouts	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Marie Eargle Doreen Edmondson	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Bobbi Buff Cindy Evans
Greeters Early	Rochelle Roof	SCOUTS	Ed & Brenda Hedgecock	Rochelle Roof
Late	Elizabeth Lindler	SCOUTS	Marie Eargle	Sheila Kinnard
Lectors Early	Dot Rish	SCOUTS	Kim Massey	Steve Wyndham
Late	Martin Bowers	SCOUTS	Marie Eargle	Carl Shealy
Pew Crew	Carol Arnold & Rochelle Roof			
Ushers Early & Late	Jeffrey Crapps & Keith Powell—Co-Chairs Mark Edmondson, Nathan Galub, Steven Johnson, Chris Marcolini, Don Nichols, Brady Porth, Jr., Dr. Carl Shealy, & Jim Teeter			

God
demonstrates
his own
love for us...

ROMANS 5:8



If you are available to fill one
of these open slots, please call
Carol at 803-359-2470.

THANK YOU!!



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2nd	Jake Leitzsey Cohen Lindler
3rd	Elliott Porth Rochelle Roof
4th	Missy Porth
5th	Carson Ray
7th	Ava Hoyle
8th	Myra Cantrell David Heffner Dennis Wessinger
10th	Kimberly Jumper Lilly Johnson Danny Young

11th	Audrey Wilson
12th	Caroline Davis Rachel Price
13th	Joshua Lever Barbara Novak
15th	John Michael Weidner
16th	Jodi Chumley Lee Dixon MaryAnne Jones
17th	Barry Powell Keith Powell

18th	Pr. Gary Blobaum Alyson Shirer Patti Switter
22nd	Martin Bowers Addyson Galub Reagan Poole Jennifer Williams
23rd	Elizabeth Lindler Garrett Webb
25th	Trish Isley
26th	Johnnie Amick
27th	Jackie Jumper



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

3rd	Michael & Natalie Carter	30 years
9th	Zack & Julynn Spence	35 years
10th	Matt & Allison Hendrix	16 years
12th	Tetie & Lonna Paul	38 years
17th	Ashley & Allison Black	25 years
22nd	Reggie & Becky Shealy	29 years
27th	Marty & Tina Lindler	33 years

**God is
LOVE.**
1 JOHN 4:16



FEBRUARY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

8:30 am Worship
9:30 am Coffee Time
9:45 am SonShine Choir
10:00 am Angel Choir
10:00 am Sunday School
10:15 am Chancel Choir
11:00 am Worship
4:00 pm Cub Scouts / SH
4:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal
5:00 pm Youth / YR

MONDAY

12:00 pm Charity Crafts / FH
6:30 pm Matins Choir
6:30 pm Boy Scouts / SH

TUESDAY

11:00 am Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY

10:00 am Bible Study / FH
6:30 pm Mustard Seeds/ FH
6:30 pm Chancel Choir

CR=Conference Room

FH=Fellowship Hall

GR=Gathering Room behind PLC

PLC=Parish Life Center

SH=Scout Hut

YR=Youth Room



February 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1  Soup Supper 6 pm/PLC	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Youth Ski Trip	14
15 Welcome New Members Council 3 pm/CR	16	17  6 pm/PLC	18 Ash Wednesday Worship 11:15 am & 7 pm	19	20	21  CEMETERY CLEANUP DAY 9 am
22 Pinewood Derby & Spaghetti Lunch Confirmation Lunch & Learn 12:30 pm	23	24 Loving Group 10:30 am	25 Lent Worship 11:15 am & 7 pm	26	27	28

We still have a few
SPLC blankets. See
Bobbi Buff to get yours.

LOVING GROUP

If you're new here, you may not know about this fabulous group! The Loving Group is made up of some of the finest folks around! They are retired & get together in the Parish Life Center (PLC) at 10:30 am on the last Tuesday of every month for a little work, a little play, a great lunch, & a whole lot of fun!

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Dear single women
looking to find a nice
guy: Ash Wednesday
(February 18th) God will
label them for you.

