



# Proclaimer

July 2020

## St. Peter's Lutheran

1130 St. Peters Road  
Lexington SC 29072  
803.359.2470

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 9am-5pm  
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Angel Choir Director

**Stephanie Chamberlain**  
Nursery Attendant

## Thoughts from the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ:

This month we again celebrate our great nation's birth and our Declaration of Independence. Obviously, this year's celebrations will be marred by the continued civil unrest and racial tension afflicting our country. As Christians, we know we are called by our Lord Jesus to be His instruments of peace, love, and reconciliation in this world. So, what exactly are we to do in our present circumstances?

Our NALC Bishop, Dan Selbo, addressed this in a letter he sent out to our congregations last month. Because many of you do not have access to the Internet or have not seen it for other reasons, I am sharing it with you here. I realize it is rather long, but it is worth your time. Then, after reading, ask God how you might respond specifically and invest the time to listen for His answer.

Thank you for your faithfulness to the Gospel of Christ!

God loves you and so do I,

*Pastor Bill*

## First Steps in Addressing Racial Tension

**The Rev. Dr. Daniel W. Selbo**

*Bishop of the North American Lutheran Church*

June 8, 2020

Over the past few weeks, much of the United States has been in turmoil following the sudden and tragic death of George Floyd at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer who had pledged "to protect and serve" the citizens of that community. It was an inexcusable and unimaginable event. It was witnessed by a few and has been watched by millions. It was troubling in its cause and tragic in its result. No rationale can cover it. No responsible voice can deny it. No reliable reporting or reasoning can undo what was ultimately done. A life created by God was unwillingly taken, and countless lives, as a result, have been unnecessarily and unduly changed.



# Message from the Bishop

As tragic as the event itself was, it was, even more tragically, revealing of something worse. For many of us who live our lives largely unaware of the ongoing realities of racism, it uncovered some of our deepest problems and prejudices as a nation. It brought to light some of the troubles and turmoil we hoped we had dealt with long ago. It unleashed some of those most destructive and deplorable responses to some of the most challenging issues we have ever faced. And the tragedy of the event will continue, if the root causes of the event go unaddressed.

This is not a new problem for our world, nor for our nation. When the United States was first formed, slavery was real and alive. It took a Civil War to face and address it head-on. The civil unrest of the 1960s was closely connected to the racial unrest that was found in people's lives and hearts. Even more recently, the death of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia resulted in outrage and protests in cities across the U.S.

When Billy Graham was asked to identify the greatest social problem facing our nation, his answer was clear and direct. "Our greatest social problem is racism. Not only do we have continuing racism in our own country, but racism is a worldwide problem that has led to countless wars and conflicts. It is also at the root of much of the world's injustice and poverty."

It has always fascinated me how the events of this life and the fallen nature of our world serve to remind us of God's ultimate purpose for us in Jesus. At the same time as some of our world's best scientific and medical minds have been working 24/7 to find a vaccine for a global pandemic, in the events surrounding the death of George Floyd, we have been reminded of an even more serious "virus" that needs a cure. The root cause of every virus is sin. The root cause of every sin is a deep and destructive desire, in

each of us, to live life our own way. It was there in the Garden when our world was first formed. It is alive and well in our world today. And it will be with us and among us until Jesus returns and God ultimately has His way.

Until then, as the Church, we are called to offer living examples for others to see and to follow, and to offer a life-giving witness that provides real and lasting hope. As a Church, we have what the world does not have. His name is Jesus. We belong to the One the world does not fully know. His name is Christ. We also have been called to live in ways that show the world who this Jesus is and how much our world and we are loved by Him.

Knowing there are no simple answers to the questions we face, and that no superficial responses will result in a cure to troubles that go deep, allow me to offer the following as first steps we can all take, as followers of Jesus, to address our nation's racial tension.

**Pray.** We can never pray too often or too much. Pray for God to intervene. Pray for the family of George Floyd. Pray for the Black community. Pray for our police officers, including the ones directly involved in this tragic event. Pray for our nation's leaders. Pray for race relations to be strengthened, and for all citizens of our world to acknowledge our common citizenship as children of the One God. Pray for those who have peacefully offered protests, in order that their voices be heard. Pray for those who have destroyed and looted properties, asking for justice to lead them to Jesus. Pray for our own hearts to change, and for God, ultimately, to hear our prayers and for our nations and our world to turn our hearts toward Him.

**Confess.** As much as it is always easier to point to someone else, that is not where the solution starts. It is the first step in any recovery program. It is the most important step in





# Message from the Bishop

bringing about lasting change. Even if the part we have played is insignificant. Even if we believe we have played no part at all. It is essential that we confess that we may have, even without knowing it, played a part, “by what we have done and by what we have left undone.” There is a problem. It will not go away on its own. We need help. We need to acknowledge and confess our need.

**Listen.** This may be the most difficult step to take. It often is for me. It is much easier to speak and to offer counsel than it is to listen to and learn from and accept it when it comes. I will never know what it feels like to be a Black man in this country. I have grown up with a calm and calming atmosphere and life. Before rushing to judgment, we need to listen and to learn and to do our best to “walk a mile” in our brother’s or sister’s shoes. We can all learn from each other, but only as we listen to what the other has to say.

**Speak up.** This should come naturally for us as Lutheran Christians. Martin Luther spoke up when he saw abuse happening in the name of God. It is not wrong to protest. But do it peacefully. Regardless of where we find ourselves politically, we have a responsibility to speak up when we see things that are not right, and to do so in ways that are helpful. We also have the reassurance that, when we do, we are not alone. God speaks through us. God will speak through you. But it will only happen as you speak up for what is right and speak out against what is wrong.

**Love.** This is at the heart of the Christian faith. This is at the heart of the Christian life. How can we say we love God, if we fail to love others? The Bible is clear. We cannot. Love for God goes hand in hand with love for our neighbor. We need to work hard at loving those we see, even if we see in them things we do not love. There are no conditions in God’s love for us. There must be no conditions in our love for others.



If we are to be faithful to the call we have in Jesus, as individuals and as a denomination, we must be faithful in our response to others by loving them as God has first loved us. God’s love is always and only found in relationships. And relationships, if they are of God, are always and only rooted in love. Let us work to build relationships with each other, with our sisters and brothers of other races and colors, and to ground and root those relationships in Christ.

I invite you to join me in following Jesus, by taking these first and most important steps in addressing our world’s racial tension: pray, confess, listen, speak up, and love. Until our Lord returns, this is and will always be the calling we share.

In Christ,

**Bishop Dan**

Since we are not able to all gather because of COVID-19, we have had to get creative with a **lot** of things and giving is one of them. The ministry of the church continues and there are still several ways you can contribute.

- **Donate on our website at [www.stpeterslexsc.org](http://www.stpeterslexsc.org)**
- **Drop off at the church office —9 am-5 pm Monday-Friday**
- **Mail it to the church at 1130 Saint Peters Rd. Lexington SC 29072**

SUMMARY	
Numbers reflect giving Jan. 1-June 21, 2020	
<b>Budget Needed YTD</b>	\$ 280,009.44
<b>Budget Received YTD</b>	\$ 260,052.25
<b>(Shortage) Overage YTD</b>	(\$ 19,957.19)

**SPENDING FREEZE**  
The summary box reflects **projected** spending, NOT actual spending.



# Church News

## COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

St. Peter's Church Council met on June 14th at 4 pm in the PLC. Matt Hendrix was absent for the meeting.

The council discussed replacing the N95 masks that were taken, with permission from NALC, to donate to Lexington Medical Center.

Council interviewed four confirmands in the PLC, who were also socially distanced, regarding their experiences with confirmation and what they thought it meant to be a member of God's family. All four confirmands did a great job and it was approved that they be confirmed members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church.

A lengthy discussion was then held regarding Music and Worship recommendation to re-open church and offer members the opportunity to worship in person. Pastor Bill and Pastor Cassie shared the precautions that Worship & Music planned to take to keep members safe such as taking temperatures when entering the sanctuary or PLC, asking members to wear masks to enter and leave the sanctuary or PLC and ushers excusing rows to leave. Worship would also still be available via YouTube as there were concerns from council members about the COVID-19 infection numbers still rising.

The next meeting will be held on July 12, 2020 at 4 pm in the PLC.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michele Zee  
Council Secretary

## WORSHIP HAS RESUMED!!

As of this writing, we have had in-person worship for the past two weeks and it has been a wonderful success! We have taken temperatures, we had multiple hand sanitizing stations, we did not pass the offering plates, we have extra masks for those without, and we have kept an attendance list should any problems arise. We have **plenty** of room at both services for others who would like to join us.

At 25% capacity in the Sanctuary, we can accommodate 75 folks. We had 41 in attendance on June 21st and 26 on June 28th.

At 25% capacity in the Parish Life Center, we can accommodate 125 folks. We had 35 in attendance on June 21st and 44 in attendance on June 28th.

We are asking that you **let us know which service you will be attending** so that proper social distancing can be observed. Please call the church office (or send an email) to get your name on a list so we can be sure we have enough seats.

We certainly understand if you are not comfortable coming back to worship and we would encourage you not to come if you are not feeling well or have been exposed in any way.

**This week, July 5th, the 8:30 service will meet in the Nave & the 11:00 service will meet in the PLC** with Holy Communion at both services. That gives us plenty of room to spread out and keeps the cleaning between services down to a minimum.





# Youth & Kid News

*As with everything else, we'll keep you posted.*

July 5: No Youth Activities (Independence Day weekend)  
July 12: JR @ 5:30 pm / SR @ 6:30 pm  
July 19: JR @ 5:30 pm / SR @ 6:30 pm

**YOUTH WEEK:** 6th-12th graders July 26th—August 1st  
This includes a Lock-In July 31st!

**Senior Youth  
Bible Study**  
Wednesdays  
7 pm  
Youth Room

## 2020 VIRTUAL MUSIC CAMP

We handed out 54 bags to children of all ages! We had 26 non-members receive Music Camp bags this year! I want to thank God for guiding the vision. Special thanks to our congregation for your support of this Music Ministry. To the Worship & Music Committee, thanks for your support. A huge thank you to my family for helping me with creating and getting everything bagged up for the Music Camp bags and for help in handing out the bags! Also, thanks to Carol for all her behind the scene help and for recording and editing the Music Camp video! As of today, Sunday, June 28th, we have had 128 views of the YouTube Virtual Music Camp video.

**Thanks be to God!**

## VBS CANCELLATION

Due to the tremendous amount of work involved in preparing a Vacation Bible School for the children of the congregation and community, as well as the uncertainties surrounding the possibility of large gatherings this summer, we have made the difficult decision not to offer VBS this year. Although we will miss offering this ministry, we do look forward to a wonderful VBS next summer!



Embrace uncertainty. Some of the most beautiful chapters in our lives won't have a title until much later.

— Bob Goff —





# In Other News

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES ALREADY?** Yes and here is the updated list for fall 2020.

- Bookbags, no wheels
- 10 count Bold Crayola Markers
- Black & White Composition Notebooks, wide-ruled
- Glue Sticks, large and small
- 24-count Crayola crayons
- Blunt nosed scissors
- Large pink erasers
- Plastic pencil pouches or boxes
- Packages of wide-ruled notebook paper
- Cap erasers
- Crayola colored pencils
- Expo, black dry erase markers
- Pencils

Supplies purchased should be returned to the church by the first Sunday in August. If you would like us to do the shopping, we will be glad to do that. Donations should also be made by August 2nd.

THANK YOU!

*Christian Education Committee*

## THE CUPBOARDS ARE BARE!

Mission Lexington has been busy during this crisis and is in desperate need of food! If you are able, please drop off donations at the church.



**WOMEN'S MINISTRY SUMMER PLANS!** For the summer months, we would like to share in reading two books with the Book Club and we are planning for the next Bible Study to start after Labor Day. We will be reading:

- ***Reforesting Faith*** by Matthew Sleeth, MD with discussion on August 6th
- ***The Hiding Place*** by Corrie Ten Boom with discussion on September 3rd

Stay tuned to the church bulletins, newsletters and E-Blasts for the details of method, time, and location for these discussions. If you have questions, please contact [Brenda Hedgecock](mailto:bhedgecock@aol.com) at [bhedgecock@aol.com](mailto:bhedgecock@aol.com)

# Our Prayer List

## Members

Rick Baldwin  
**Linda Ballington**  
Claudia Chassereau  
Bunny Dannels  
Pat Dozier  
Betty Lou Fulmer  
JoAnn Harmon  
**Sam Harmon**  
**Curry Hook**  
Bob Hundley  
Angela King  
Jon & Sylvia Monson  
Barbara Novak

## Homebound

Betty Amick (Wellmore)  
Wanda Arnold  
**Family of Sarah Biser**  
Grace Harmon  
Billie Heidenstrom (moved to Florida)  
Zoe Hendrix  
Frank Howard  
**Family of Dale Lindler**  
**Family of Gladys Meetze**  
**Family of Doris Paul**  
Lonna Paul  
Albert Porth  
Jake Rush  
Carolyn Smith (Oakleaf)  
Frances Snelgrove  
Larry Varner (Oakleaf)  
Retha Wessinger (Morningside)  
Barbara Whiteside (Carolina Gardens)

## Missionaries & Ministry Partners

David Davis in Brazil  
Neeraj & Nijhar Ekka in India  
NALC Mission Congregations:  
Addis Hiwot, Charlotte, NC  
Advent, Kings Mountain, NC  
Christ United, Granite Falls, NC  
Grace, Winston-Salem, NC  
Immanuel, Sumter, SC  
Joy Mission, West Cola., SC  
Reformation, New Bern, NC  
Trinity, Flat Rock, NC

The ELCA  
The NALC



## Family & Friends of the St. Peter's Congregation

Emily Alford (step-mother of Steve Alford)  
Vivian Best (grandmother of Michael Carter)  
**Family of Tom Boozer (father of Brenda Nichols)**  
**Pam Cannon (daughter of Jerry & Sarah Richey)**  
Kathie Cashion (mother of Hillarie Vaughan)  
Rudy Caulder (mother of Tabitha Summers)  
**Claire (co-worker of Jennifer Raasch)**  
Pastor Brett Collins (son-in-law of Becky & Brady Porth)  
Jack Costa (brother-in-law of Kevin Gobbi)  
Janice Craps (mother of Mark Craps)  
William Dominguez (grandfather of Tulley Dominguez)  
Ashton Eleazer (niece of Zack & Julynn Spence)  
Don Eleazer (father of Julynn Spence)  
Stephanie Ervin (daughter of Wayne & Betty Lou O'Neill)  
Betty Freeman (mother of Jay Freeman)  
**Sandi Frick-Helms (mother of Lisa Szuhly)**  
Marie Fulmer (niece of Myra Cantrell)  
**Linda Gobbi (mother of Kevin Gobbi)**  
Jill Graves (cousin of Vickie Davis)  
**Terri Hamilton (co-worker of Angie Williams)**  
Don Harmon (husband of Marlene Harmon)  
Patty Herman (mother of Natalie Kirby)  
**Whit Lammons (son-in-law of Pastor Bill & Cheryl)**  
Penny Lungrum (granddaughter of Paul Todd)  
Angelica Martin (daughter of Sandra Martin)  
Bryan Martin (son of Sandra Martin)  
David McCall (nephew of Connie Lindler)  
Mary "Millie" McMillan (mother of Keith McMillan)  
Heather Morris (relative of Kegan Taylor)  
Jim Orth (nephew of Doreen Edmondson)  
Will Perrin (nephew of Christen Weidner)  
Ronda Porth (daughter of Joyce & Oddie Porth)  
Michael Poulnot (brother of Amy Hodgkiss)  
Jeanette Price (grandma of Kayla Ellingson & Crystal Dennison)  
Steve Smith (son of Rebecca Smith)  
Jim Spencer (cousin of Russell Watkins)  
**Praise—Lisa Steppe is Cancer Free! (Alexander's DIL)**  
William Stevens (6-year old friend of Cheryl White)  
**Harry Swindler (brother of Betty Lou Fulmer)**  
Emily West (mother of Michael Carter)  
Jerry Wheeler (brother-in-law of Tim Pearson)  
Andrew & Brittany Wilson (nephew of Lori Huffman-guest)

## Military

David Ballington (Army)  
Andrew Henry (Navy)  
Cory Hodgkiss (Army NG)  
Brad Smith (Marines)  
Kyle Weed (Navy)

Friends stay on this list for 4 weeks. **Please update family members** on this list regularly. Thank you.

Updated July 7, 2020



# Serving in July

	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26
Acolyte Early	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Addie Schneider	Elizabeth Covington	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Late	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Ava Jordan	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Altar Flowers	Brian & Karen Cook	Bobby & Christy Harmon	Dr. Carl & Donna Shealy	Dwight & Kay Amick
Altar Guild	LeeAnn Crapps, Karen Gobbi, Catherine Porth			
Coffee Time	No Coffee Today	No Coffee Today	No Coffee Today	No Coffee Today
Communion Assistants Early	<b>Bread: Pastor Cassie</b> Wine: Pastor Bill	<b>Bread: Pastors</b> Wine: Jenny Stone Steve Wyndham	<b>Bread: Pastors</b> Wine: Paul Robison Diane Robison	<b>Bread: Pastors</b> Wine: Sheryl Gill Stephanie Lindner
Late	<b>Bread: Pastor Cassie</b> Wine: Pastor Bill	<b>Bread: Pastors</b> Wine: Kristina Gilbert Volunteer Needed	<b>Bread: Pastors</b> Wine: Catherine Porth Cindy Evans	<b>Bread: Pastors</b> Wine: Marie Eargle Furman Cantrell
Greeters Early	Buck & Bunny Dannels	Tommy & Jenny Stone	Bob & Jean Hundley	Dave & Linda Heffner
Late	Cheryl White	Elizabeth Lindler	Volunteer Needed	Marie Eargle
Lectors Early	Paul Robison	Tommy Stone	Steve Wyndham	Sheryll Gill
Late	Karen Cook	Tommy Chaplin	Tommy Chaplin	Marie Eargle
Ushers Early & Late	<b>Ean Crapps &amp; Keith McMillan —Co-Chairs</b> Landis Sandel and Wayne O'Neill			



We **certainly understand** if you are not ready to be serving again. If your name is on this list and you need a substitute this month, please let us know.

We **are** looking for folks to **take temperatures**. If you would be willing, please call the office.





# July Birthdays

2nd	Janet Wiggins
3rd	George Schneider Eddie Wiggins
4th	Paul Chumley Jesse Riley
5th	Jade Schneider Allison Werner
6th	Pat Carr Nadaly Womble
7th	Addison Cook Billie Clodfelter Angie Williams
8th	Chet Ballentine Ed Hedgecock Brandon Wiggins
9th	Todd Poole
10th	Tommy Chaplin Larry James Lisa Szuhly Larry Varner
11th	Courtney Weed
12th	Becky Klotz
13th	Gibbs Jumper Betsy Shealy
14th	Meredith Arnold Benjamin Kitchen

15th	Kim Elliott
16th	Valerie Porth Morgan Mobley
17th	Jason Williams
18th	Linda Heffner Keith McMillan Tori Pearson Bob Weed
19th	Darin Roberts
20th	Zorrina Harmon
21st	Linda Ballington Richard Hodgkiss <b>Gerald Long (92)</b>
22nd	Kay Davis Amick
23rd	Debbie Dent Adam Ellisor Dick Sullivan (92)

24th	Tommy Phelan
25th	Al Holladay Britt Sims <b>Joyce Smith (91)</b> Jullynn Spence
26th	Stan Whiteside
27th	Carla Lindler Trey Porth Quincey Ray
28th	Talor Roberts
29th	Betty Lou Fulmer
30th	Barbara Weed
31st	Dory Arnold Anna Clement Trent Jackson Albert Porth

## Quarantine Weddings

May 16<sup>th</sup>—Erin Lavisky to T. J. Zee

June 12<sup>th</sup>—Alden Crapps to Abby Sloan

July 18<sup>th</sup>—Haleigh Marcolini to Adam Brown

## Congratulations





# July Anniversaries

1st	Dan & Teresa Russell	48 years
2nd	Mikel & Donna Lax	37 years
	John & Kitty Smith	39 years
	Mike & Christen Weidner	26 years
7th	Dan & Lisa Rider	27 years
	Bob & Jean Hundley	41 years
10th	Bobby & Christy Harmon	16 years
12th	William & Jennifer Mann	12 years
13th	Bobby & Jeannette Porth	63 years
19th	Chuck & Alli Bledsoe	23 years
	Bob & Sandra Martin	?? years

21st	Stephen & Katie Kupchinsky	19 years
	Keith & Jennifer McMillan	8 years
	Brett & Jennie Porth	13 years
23rd	Gene & Joyce M. Porth	32 years
	Calvin & Missy Porth	37 years
25th	Tommy & Gloria Shealy	39 years
<b>26th</b>	<b>Olin &amp; Claudia Chassereau</b>	<b>56 years</b>
27th	Ray & Cathy Klotz	35 years
28th	Brett & Becka Jumper	8 years
29th	Dwight & Kay Amick	8 years



Thank you! These cards are a beautiful expression of the love we feel from all of you! Pastor Bill & Cheryl

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the many cards and letters to Cheryl and me celebrating the 35th Anniversary of my ordination on June 23rd to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the Lutheran Church. Wow, time does fly when you are having a good time! Cheryl and I have been especially blessed in that the last four and one-half of those years have been in ministry with you at St. Peter's. We continue to give thanks to God for our partnership in being disciples and making disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. May our gracious God continue to empower and bless our efforts!

Blessed by God; redeemed by Christ,  
Pastor Bill



# July 2020

## JULY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY

8:30 am Worship  
 11:00 am Worship  
 5:30 pm Junior Youth  
 7:00 pm Senior Youth

### MONDAY

6:30 pm Bible Study

### TUESDAY

10:30 am Staff Meeting

### WEDNESDAY

7:00 pm Youth Bible Study

### FRIDAY

6:30 am Men's Breakfast

CR: Conference Room

FH: Fellowship Hall

PLC: Parish Life Center

YR: Youth Room

GR: Room behind PLC

Sun Mon Tue We Thu Fri Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 7 pm Education	3 	4 
5 No Youth	6	7	8	9	10	11 11 am Betty Sullivan Memorial
12 4 pm Council	13 7 pm Safety	14 7 pm Worship & Music	15	16 7 pm Youth Committee 7 pm Property	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 7 pm Finance	29	30	31	

### CHURCH PUBLISHING DEADLINES:

Bulletin—Noon on Wednesdays  
 Proclaimer—15th of every month  
 Prayer List—5 pm on Wednesdays  
 Questions: Call Carol @ 803-359-2470

Relay for Life has  
 moved to  
**October**—details  
 as we get them.





St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
1130 St. Peter's Road  
Lexington, SC 29072

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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