

PROCLAIMER

January 2026

St. Peter's Lutheran

1130 Saint 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 Merrell, STS "Pastor Judson" Senior Pastor JudsonMerrell@bellsouth.net Cell: 704-798-4280

The Rev. Cassandra 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's in a Name?

January 1 is one of the most holy, yet forgotten, celebrations on the church calendar. It is appointed as the festival "The Name of Jesus". The text for this day is below:

Luke 2:15-21—When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

So why is it so important that the baby's name is Jesus? Names represent power and authority. To know the name of a person is important, and being called by name means you are important. Jesus is an important name for this baby. In Greek, the name can also be translated Joshua, except that this baby will do more than lead God's people out of the bondage of Egypt and into the Promised Land. This baby will save the entire world from the bondage of sin. Whereas God gave a verb for a name (I Am), and whereas God did not let anvone see his face lest they die, this baby will do so much more. Knowing his name helps us to know the relationship that we have with him, knowing that we can call upon his name, the very name of the image (icon in Greek, see Colossians 1:15) of God made flesh. Through Jesus, God has finally answered Moses question, and also has given us a glimpse at what salvation with God means. I hope that this will give you some new things to think about next time you (or we together) pray "In Jesus' Name."

God's Peace, Pastor Judson



CHURCH BUSINESS

St. Peter's By the Numbers Jan. 1-Nov. 30, 2025

| Contributions YTD | \$ 601,909.36 | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Spent YTD | \$ 625,030.10 | | |
| Difference YTD | - \$ 23,120.74 | | |

Ministry Highlights

by Rachel Price

Church Council will meet December 21st @ 4 pm.

Minutes from that meeting, along with the minutes from the January meeting, will be in the February Proclaimer.

| Funds | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--|--|
| General | \$ | \$ 58,146.67 | | |
| Alzheimer's | \$ | 1,041.00 | | |
| Boy Scouts | \$ | 65.00 | | |
| Cemetery Maintenance | \$ | 250.00 | | |
| David Davis Ministry | \$ | 340.00 | | |
| Electronic Sign | \$ | 275.00 | | |
| Endowment Fund | \$ | 790.00 | | |
| Maintenance | \$ | 2,095.00 | | |
| Music Ministry | \$ | 15.00 | | |
| Operation Christmas Child | \$ | 35.00 | | |
| Poinsettias | \$ | 300.00 | | |
| Safety Ministry | \$ | 240.00 | | |
| School Supplies | \$ | 450.00 | | |
| Snack Sack Ministry | \$ | 700.00 | | |
| SPLC Disaster Relief | \$ | 80.00 | | |
| Youth Ministry | \$ | 20.00 | | |
| Youth Silent Auction | \$ | 4,261.02 | | |
| Meredith Arnold Memorial | \$ | 50.00 | | |
| Stan Whiteside Memorial | \$ | 200.00 | | |
| TOTAL GIVING-October | \$ 69,353.69 | | | |

| Funds | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------|--|
| General | \$ 66,866.50 | | |
| Boy Scouts | \$ | 205.00 | |
| Cemetery Endowment | \$ | 25.00 | |
| Cemetery Maintenance | \$ | 350.00 | |
| David Davis Ministry | \$ | 340.00 | |
| Electronic Sign | \$ | 875.00 | |
| Endowment Fund | \$ | 1,555.25 | |
| Loving Group-Betty Lou | \$ | 1,185.00 | |
| Maintenance | \$ | 2,500.25 | |
| Mission Lexington | \$ | 75.00 | |
| Missions Market | \$ | 1,246.00 | |
| Ronald McDonald House | \$ | 25.00 | |
| Poinsettias | \$ | 550.00 | |
| Safety Ministry | \$ | 685.00 | |
| Snack Sack Ministry | \$ | 2,640.00 | |
| SPLC Disaster Relief | \$ | 140.00 | |
| World Hunger-Noisy Offering | \$ | 85.00 | |
| Youth Missions | \$ | 310.00 | |
| Dick Sullivan Memorial | \$ | 50.00 | |
| Stan Whiteside Memorial | \$ | 150.00 | |
| TOTAL GIVING-November | \$ | 79,858.00 | |



CHURCH BUSINESS



Sunday, December 7th we dedicated this beautiful new portrait of our buildings done in *colored pencil* by our member, Gretchen Parker. Memorial money from Marvin & Zoe Hendrix (grandparents of Matt Hendrix) was used to commission this piece. The original will hang in the elevator lobby.

Each household gets a free print for their home. Please come by the church office to get yours.

THANK YOU, GRETCHEN!



COMING ATTRACTIONS



ALL COMMITTEE ENCOUNTER Sunday, January 11th @ 3:00 pm

If you are serving on a Committee in 2026 (or are interested in a specific task), please join us! We will have a table for each & chairs will be elected. We'll have coffee, cookies and fellowship and get to work planning activities for the entire year and adding them to the church calendar.

2026 Church Dates to Remember

January 11-All Committee Encounter @ 3 pm/PLC
February 1-Soup Supper @ 6 pm
February 17-Pancake Supper
February 18-Ash Wednesday
March 29-Palm Sunday
April 2-Maundy Thursday / April 3-Good Friday
April 5-Easter
May 3-Homecoming Celebration

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May 24-Pentecost / Confirmation
May 29-St. Peter's Night @ the Blowfish
June 7-11-Vacation Bible School
July 6-11-NALC Continental Youth Gathering

MUSIC MINISTRY





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. Congregation rotates bringing sides. This year's assignments are:

A-H brings Salads
I-P brings Desserts
Q-Z brings Sandwiches

There is also wild entertainment, things you don't hear on Sunday mornings. We let our hair down as it were.

Join us for the best party of the year!

MATINS CHOIR

Mondays @ 6: 30 pm

Now accepting new members!

(okay, we're always accepting new members)

We lead worship @ 8:30 am each Sunday and would love to have you join our ranks. We laugh, learn cool music, and we eat cake once a month! What's not to love about that? Contact Craig or Carol with questions.







THANK YOU, ETC.



Dear St. Peter's Family,

Thank you so much for all the thoughts and prayers throughout the year.

A special thank you to the Service Committee and Lydia Circle for the beautiful cards & basket this year.

God bless you all may you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours in Christ, Lonna Paul



CONTINENTAL YOUTH GATHERING JULY 2026

SEE CLAY FOR DETAILS

Dear Church Family,

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of the Missions Market! Our aim was to surpass last year's achievements, and we certainly did! It would not have been possible without the countless volunteers giving of their time & talent.

This year, we raised a total of \$7,501.87! Thanks to the market's success, we can donate to the four chosen charities: Leeza's Care Connection, Relay for Life, Mission Lexington, and Dickerson Children's Advocacy Center.

Thank you!

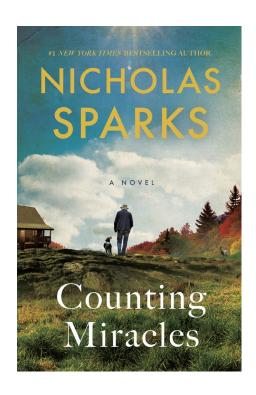
Rachel Price & Service Committee



WOMEN'S MINISTRY



JANUARY BOOK CLUB



Counting Miracles—The story weaves together the lives of an Army Ranger searching for his biological father, a single mother he connects with, and an elderly man obsessed with protecting a legendary white deer.

It is an emotional novel about love, loss, second chances, and the idea of "belonging". The narrative follows three main character arcs that eventually intersect in Asheboro, North Carolina:

Tanner Hughes: An Army Ranger who has spent his life traveling the world. After his grandmother's passing, her dying wish sends him on a quest to find the father he never knew.

Kaitlyn Cooper: A single mother and doctor in Asheboro who meets Tanner. They feel an immediate connection, but the relationship is complicated by Tanner's transient lifestyle and the short time he plans to stay.

Jasper: An 83-year-old recluse haunted by a past tragedy. He lives alone with his dog, Arlo, and becomes consumed with protecting a mythical white deer that has reportedly been spotted in the nearby national forest.

We will meet to discuss Thursday, January 29th

Join us for Hand Crocheting!

Yes, you read that right. We'll be making crocheted blankets. No needles needed, just two hands.

Saturday, January 17th in the Fellowship Hall from 10 am to noon.

You will need 5 skeins of bulky yarn. Check Hobby Lobby first as they put their yarn on sale for 30% off during December.

Yarn Bee Eternal Bliss Yarn is what you need.

If you don't need an afghan, consider making one and sending it to a family in Burnsville, NC.





SERVING IN JANUARY



| | January 4 | January 11 | January 18 | January 25 | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Acolyte Early | Volunteer Appreciated | Volunteer Volunteer Appreciated Appreciated | | Volunteer Appreciated | | |
| Late | Olivia Leaphart | Volunteer Appreciated | Volunteer Appreciated | Volunteer Appreciated | | |
| Altar Flowers | Dennis & Jo Wessinger | Bobby & Christy Bob & Barbara Weed | | Ed & Brenda Hedgecock | | |
| Altar Guild | LeeAnn Crapps & Catherine Porth | | | | | |
| Bulletins | Debbie Arnold & Sandy | Coleman | | | | |
| Coffee Time | Volunteer Appreciated | Busters | Volunteer Appreciated | Volunteer Appreciated | | |
| Communion Assistants Early | Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Pat Allen Brenda Hedgecock | Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Ellen Knehans Michele Zee | Bread: Pastor Judson Pastor Cassie Wine: Judy Nichols Jenny Stone | Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: LeeAnn Crapps Diane Robison | | |
| Communion Assistants Late | Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Ernie Chaplin Jo Wessinger | Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Barbara Weed Debbie Marcolini | Pastor Judson Vine: Barbara Weed Wine: Marie Eargle | | | |
| Greeters Early | Rochelle Roof | Carol Arnold | Ed & Brenda Hedgecock | Paul & Diane Robison | | |
| Late | Volunteer Appreciated | Rochelle Roof | Marie Eargle | Barbara Weed | | |
| Lectors Early | Pat Allen | Michele Zee | Judy Nichols | Paul Robison | | |
| Late | Tommy Chaplin | Donna Shealy Marie Eargle | | Catherine Oxner | | |
| Pew Crew | Debbie Arnold & Sandy Coleman | | | | | |
| Ushers | Ean Crapps & Keith McMillan —Co-Chairs / Dory Arnold, Alden Crapps, Bobby Harmon, Tanner Long, Chris Marcolini, Landis Sandel, & Dennis Wessinger | | | | | |

PUBLISHING DEADLINES:

Bulletin—Noon on Wednesdays Proclaimer—15th of every month Prayer List—5 pm on Wednesdays If you are available to fill one of these open slots, please call Carol at the church office. THANK YOU!!



| 2nd | Lisa Leitzsey Bobby Harmon Jane Risinger Mike Rowell |
|------|---|
| 5th | Natalie Carter John Oxner Randall Smith |
| 6th | Stephen Kupchinsky Mitchell Bowman |
| 7th | Billy Boehringer |
| 8th | Jillian Leitzsey Anna Kate Davis |
| 9th | Sylvia Durden |
| 10th | Lynn Roberts |
| 11th | Rhea Claire Riley |
| 12th | Jason Watkins |

| 13th | Rory Branham |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 14th | Tetie Paul |
| 15th | Ken Lunsford Russell Rawl |
| 17th | Catherine Porth |
| 18th | Lorelei Williams |
| 19th | Julie Watkins |
| 20th | Marilyn Dozier Michael Harmon |
| 22nd | Charlie Eargle Carolyn Weed |
| 24th | Allan Smith |
| 25th | Matt Hendrix |
| | |

| 26th | Bobby Arnold Jane Burnett Miles Hendrix Ashley Anne McMullan Steve Wyndham |
|------|--|
| 27th | Vickie Davis |
| 28th | Teresa Bickley Martin Craps |
| 29th | Becky Porth Raymond Jones Fulmer Shealy |
| 30th | Claude Lindler |
| 31st | Stella Hendrick Oddie Porth |



| 4th | Dennis & Jo Wessinger | 51 years | |
|------|-------------------------------|----------|--|
| 10th | Oddie & Joyce Porth | 61 years | |
| 19th | Michael & Amanda Hook | 18 years | |
| 21st | Bob & Barbara Weed | 60 years | |
| 23rd | Indy & Teresa Deliz | 16 years | |
| 24th | Ed & Brenda Hedgecock | 57 years | |
| 24th | Doug & Kathy Schreiber | 56 years | |
| 29th | Steve & Donna Alford | 43 years | |



JANUARY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

8:30 am Worship
9:45 am SonShine Choir
10:00 am Angel Choir
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship
4:00 pm Handbells
4:00 pm Cub Scouts/SH

MONDAY

5:00 pm

6:30 pm Matins Choir 6:30 pm Boy Scouts/SH

Youth

TUESDAY

10:00 am Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY

10:00 am Bible Study/FH

CR: Conference Room

FH: Fellowship Hall

GR: Gathering Rm in PLC

PLC: Parish Life Center

SH: Scout Hut YR: Youth Room



January 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| Continental Youth Gathering July 2026 See Clay for details | | | 1 Office Closed Today | 2 Offfice Closed Today | 3 | |
|--|----|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----|---|
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 3 pm—All Committee Encounter | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 Crochet Blanket Class 10 am |
| 18 Council 4 pm/CR | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 Loving Group 10:30 am | 28 | 29 Book Club 6:30 pm/ GR | 30 | 31 |

