



PROCLAIMER

March 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 F. Merrell, STS

"Pastor Judson" Senior Pastor
JudsonMerrell@bellsouth.net
704-798-4280

The Rev. Cassandra L. Boehringer

"Pastor Cassie" Associate Pastor
pastorcassieb@gmail.com
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 (age 0-5)

Lauren Henry & Penni Henry

Nursery Attendants

Barry Moore

Chancel Choir & Handbells Director

Valerie Porth

Bookkeeper

Molly Teem

SonShine Choir Director (gr. 1-5)

Carol Wyndham

Administrative Coordinator
Organist/Accompanist
admin@stpeterslexsc.org
803-360-7137

Financial Update

As we approach the end of our first quarter, it is a good time to take a look at our finances. We finished 2025 a little bit behind in our General Fund, however, we have very faithful givers that give in a variety of other ways. We have Temporary Restricted (TR) accounts, Memorials, Endowment Gifts, etc. When you add these together, we had a healthy net positive for 2025. A reminder, we also spent over \$100,000 from our savings to replace the HVAC units in the PLC.

Here is a brief overview of our 2025 giving:

General Fund Giving	\$ 688,967.32
Excess Fund Gifts (<i>TR's, Endowment, Memorials, etc.</i>)	\$ 114,025.02
Total Giving of all Funds:	\$ 802,992.34
<i>Budget Expenditures</i> (General Fund Spending)	\$ 702,588.87
Total Assets (<i>all accounts</i>)	\$1,198,417.09
	\$ 40,663.64 over 2024

Over the past year, the Stewardship and Finance Committee has been working to streamline the process of TR funds. Here are a few bullet points on TR funds:

- These funds are gifts that can only be used for the designated reason & we hope to move toward returning to \$0 at the end of the year. Right now they carry over from year to year but they are not meant to be saved for a large project. They are meant to be temporary only. For example, we have a TR fund for Mission Lexington. When people give to that fund, we send the money to Mission Lexington & that fund goes to \$0.
- We have several funds that we have combined or are working to zero out due to duplication. For example, we have a TR for "Betty Lou's Loving Group" as well as a TR named "Loving Group". We are working to combine these funds since they are for the same thing, even though they have different names. We have TRs for Audio/Visual and Sound System. We are working to combine these as well.



Church Business

Continued from page 1

- We also have moved many reoccurring items that used to be paid by TR funds into the budget. An example of this is Church Maintenance. Lawn mowing, pest control, janitorial services, etc. all used to be paid out of a TR account. Now those are all paid out of the General Fund as budgeted items.

We are so blessed to have faithful givers who support the many ministries here at St. Peter's. As we move forward into 2026 & beyond, please know that giving to the General Fund is the best way to support our ministries. The Stewardship & Finance committee works hard to be faithful stewards of what God has given us, and we appreciate your work on also being faithful stewards.

In God's Peace,
Dot Rish, Treasurer

St. Peter's By the Numbers	
January 1-31, 2025*	
Actual Received YTD	\$ 48,178.88
Actual Spent YTD	\$ 54,923.79
Difference YTD	- \$ 6,744.91
<i>*Because our newsletter is published before the end of the month, the numbers here & for the month, will always be a month behind.</i>	
<i>Reminder—We had no worship 1-25-2026 because of the Ice Storm.</i>	

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

Ministry Highlights

by Rachel Price

Church Council met February 15th @ 3 pm.

All members were present.

- Homecoming:** We will go back to having it on the 1st Sunday in May which is our tradition. This year it will be May 3rd. Clay & Carol have something wonderful (and different) planned.
- Treasurer:** Several insurance payments paid in January and weather cancellations are the reason for deficit this month.
- Education:** A Lenten devotional book, *'Twas the Season of Lent*, was purchased for families of elementary-aged children. VBS is scheduled for June 7-11. The Backpack SS Class has begun a new book study, *Junk Drawer Jesus*.
- Evangelism:** Pancake Supper @ 6 pm in PLC. Balloon Man & Gilbert High Jazz Band will be the entertainment.
- Property:** We are getting quotes to have the entire ceiling repaired in Sanctuary. It will take a few weeks to complete repairs at which time we will have to worship in the PLC. We are planning to begin repairs after Easter.
- Safety:** Basic Life Saving course will be held Saturday, April 25th @ 9 am & 1 pm in FH. Fee of \$50 to be paid by attendees.
- Scouts** have Pinewood Derby February 22nd and spaghetti fundraiser.
- Service:** Relay for Life is May 1st. Delivered over 100 personal care kits delivered to St. Jacob in Chapin.
- Stewardship/Finance:** Lenten offering will be split between the Ekkas & Dr. Haamer.
- Worship & Music:** Soup Supper was cancelled due to snow. Lenten Services are being planned for 11:15 am & 7 pm on Wednesdays during Lent.
- Youth:** we have four young adults planning to go to Canada this summer. Chicken Bog—made 104 quarts, sold 100, donated 4 to shut-ins. Working on Continental Youth Gathering in Virginia in July.

Next meeting is March 15th @ 3 pm

Church Business

Funds	January Fund Totals
General	\$ 27,382.12
Boy Scouts	\$ 20.00
Cemetery Endowment	\$ 200.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$ 50.00
David Davis	\$ 150.00
Electronic Sign	\$ 435.00
Endowment Fund	\$ 795.00
Maintenance	\$ 1,225.00
Snack Sacks	\$ 230.00
SPLC Disaster Relief	\$ 95.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 45.00
Youth Missions	\$ 50.00
TOTAL GIVING for January*	\$ 30,677.12



**PUT ON THE FULL
ARMOR
OF GOD**

EPHESIANS 6:11

*No worship on January 25, 2026 due to an ice storm.



\$486 for Mission Lexington was collected at Pancake Supper.

Our 2025 Annual Report is on the bottom left corner of the homepage on our website.

Stpeterslexsc.org



D FORTY Days OF LENT

Join us each Wednesday in March

at 11:15 am and 7 pm in the Sanctuary

For Mid-Week Worship

Come and observe the somber sounds of the Lenten Season.
We cannot fully appreciate the glory of Easter without first
going to the cross.



**Palm
Sunday**
March

29

8:30 & 11 am



**Maundy
Thursday**
April

2

11:15 am & 7 pm



**Good
Friday**
April

3

11:15 am & 7 pm



**Easter
Sunday**
April

5

7:30 am & 11 am

Women's Retreat



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.](#)



KIDS AGES 0-5TH GRADE

BETTY LOU'S BUNNY BASH

28th
March

Fulmer Family
Egg Hunt in memory
Of Ms. Betty Lou

9:30 am to
11:00 am in
Parish Life Center

COME ENJOY A HUNT AND SNACK AND A VISIT FROM THE EASTER BUNNY



B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Basket)

Book Club



Book: ***Orphan Train*** by Christina Baker Kline

Discussion: Thursday, March 27th @ 6:30 pm in Gathering Room

A captivating story of two very different women who build an unexpected friendship: a 91-year-old woman with a hidden past as an orphan-train rider and the teenage girl whose own troubled adolescence leads her to seek answers to questions no one has ever thought to ask.

Nearly eighteen, Molly Ayer knows she has one last chance. Just months from "aging out" of the child welfare system, and close to being kicked out of her foster home, a community service position helping an elderly woman clean out her home is the only thing keeping her out of juvie and worse.

Vivian Daly has lived a quiet life on the coast of Maine. But in her attic, hidden in trunks, are vestiges of a turbulent past. As she helps Vivian sort through her possessions and memories, Molly discovers that she and Vivian aren't as different as they seem to be. A young Irish immigrant orphaned in New York City, Vivian was put on a train to the Midwest with hundreds of other children whose destinies would be determined by luck and chance.

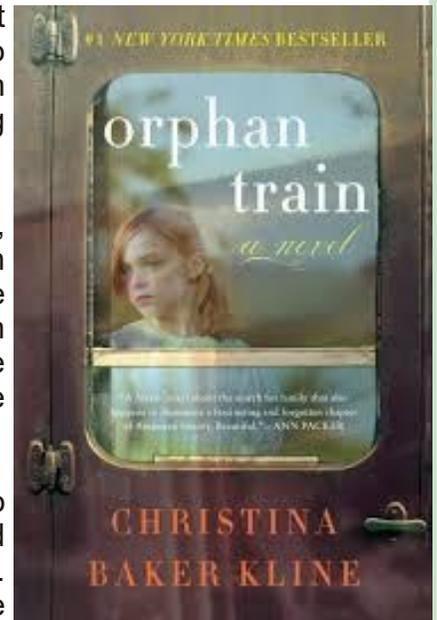
The closer Molly grows to Vivian, the more she discovers parallels to her own life. A Penobscot Indian, she, too, is an outsider being raised by strangers, and she, too, has unanswered questions about the past. As her emotional barriers begin to crumble, Molly discovers that she has the power to help Vivian find answers to mysteries that have haunted her for her entire life - answers that will ultimately free them both.

Rich in detail and epic in scope, *Orphan Train* is a powerful novel of upheaval and resilience, of second chances, of unexpected friendship, and of the secrets we carry that keep us from finding out who we are.

Is The orphan train a true story?

Yes, the Orphan Train Movement was a real program that transported children from the East to the Midwest between 1854 and 1929. The program was a supervised welfare system that relocated children to foster homes in rural areas.

- The program was founded by Charles Loring Brace, a city missionary in New York City.
- The children were often from poor families or were the children of new immigrants.
- The children were often traumatized and had no idea where they were going.
- The children were often indentured to their host families after a brief trial period.



Odds 'n' Ends



SNACK SACKS MINISTRY needs large plastic jars of PB&J to go home with the kids for Spring Break. Please put them in the bin inside the PLC. THANKS!

Meetings This Month

- March 3: Endowment & Cemetery Endowment @ 5 pm / CR
- March 8: Worship & Music 3pm/CR
- March 10: Service @ 6 pm / FH
Safety @ 6:30 pm / CR
Evangelism @ 7 pm / FH
- March 15: Council @ 3 pm / CR
- March 17: Finance @ 7 pm / CR



**CEMETERY
CLEANUP DAY**

Saturday, March 21 @ 9 am
All are welcome!



Snack Sack
Ministry

Snack Sack Ministry needs your plastic bags! We use 65 each week! Don't worry, if we get too many we'll take the extras to Mission Lexington since they need them as well. THANK YOU!



Notes of Thanks

To all my Friends at St. Peter's,

Thanks for the wonderful blanket! I truly love it & use it daily.

Also, a special thanks for my weekly letter, puzzles, (I have done 24 word searches), plus read all the cartoons Carol adds, current news, & the cards & colored pages from our children.

Especially thanks to Kelly & Chip Rhoads for bringing me communion along with a great visit.

I love my church & my Lutheran family. It sure warms my heart to still be connected to the best church in Lexington, SC.

In Christian Love,
Donna White

Dear St. Peter's,

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity throughout this year! Your significant impact made our work possible. I hope you have a wonderful year filled with rest and many blessings!

Thank you!

Parker Toney
Water Mission

Dear Members of St. Peter's,

On behalf of the entire Pleasant Hill Elementary School Family, I want to thank you for all the gifts you shared with some of our families. You have brought much joy to many people. Thank you for your generosity, your kindness, and your love.

Sincerely,
Margaret Mitchum,
Principal, Pleasant Hill Elementary

Dear St. Peter's Lutheran,

Thank you, thank you, thank you! We received your year-end donation and wanted to express how truly grateful we are to be included in your giving. Your donation will be a blessing to many & will be used to show the love & care of Christ. Please let us know if you would like to visit our facility & see the great things happening in His name.

All the best!
Nikie Smith, Mission Lexington

Dear St. Peter's,

Your support means the world to us and to the lives of Caregivers. Thank you for loving your neighbor in such a tangible way!

Mel Price
Leeza's Care Connections.





Save the Dates



Confirmation Class—March 1 @ 12:30 pm / FH

Women's Retreat—March 7 @ 9:30 am-2:30 pm / PLC

Confirmation Class—March 8 @ 12:30 pm / FH

Confirmation Class—March 15 @ 12:30 pm / FH

Confirmation Class—March 22 @ 12:30 pm / FH

Bunny Bash—March 28 @ 9:30-11 am / PLC

Palm Sunday Worship—March 29 @ 8:30 am & 11:00 am

Noisy Offering—March 20 @ 8:30 am & 11:00 am

Loving Group—March 31 @ 10:30 am / PLC

Joint Choir & Instrumentals Rehearsal for Easter—April 1 @ 7 pm

Maundy Thursday Worship—April 2 @ 11:15 am & 7:00 pm

Good Friday Worship—April 3 @ 11:15 am & 7:00 pm

Easter Early Worship—April 5 @ 7:30 am

Easter Breakfast—April 5 @ 8:30 am

Easter Divine Service—April 5 @ 11:00 am

Office Closed—April 6—for Easter Holiday

Mini Music Camp w/Kayla—April 18 @ 10:00 am / FH

Cemetery Clean-Up—April 25 @ 9 am

Basic Life Saving Classes—April 25 @ 9:00 am & 1:00 pm / FH

Relay for Life—May 1 @ 6:00 pm / Lexington High School

Homecoming Celebration—May 3 @ 12:30 pm

Pentecost Sunday—Confirmation—May 24 @ 11 am

St. Peter's Night @ the Blowfish—May 29

Vacation Bible School—June 7-11

Music Camp w/Molly—July 17-19





MARCH

birthdays

1st	Kylie Craps JoAnn Harmon Kyle Williams
2nd	Darla Jennings Kay Williams
3rd	Morgan Davis Travis Schneider
4th	LeAnne Ballentine Meredith Cook Tommy Shealy Beverly Smith
5th	Henry Hoyle Debbie Marcolini Jerry Richey Paul Schreiber Becky Shealy
6th	Kristen Lunsford Sarah Richey

7th	Tyler Dennison
8th	Hannah Jones Barry Moore Rylee Smith Lynda Whiteside
10th	Ray Jones
13th	Myrna O'Gorman Landis Sandel
15th	Josie Smith Brenda Young
16th	Christy Harmon Catherine Shirer
17th	Ray Carr
18th	Susan Bailey Ashley Ray

19th	Donna White
20th	Michele Zee
21st	Richard Connor
22nd	Andrew Riley
23rd	Rusty Massey Brett Porth
24th	Carolyn Watkins
25th	Leeann Boehringer Wayne O'Neill
27th	Jacob Johnson
29th	Roy Parker
30th	Travis Beaver
31st	Jackson Cooper



MARCH

anniversaries

7th	Tommy & Jenny Stone	45 years
8th	Brady & Becky Porth, Jr.	62 years
9th	Ray & Pat Carr	58 years
10th	Michael & Crystal Frisina	14 years

16th	Alex & Kayla Spangler	7 years
24th	Don & Judy Nichols	47 years
25th	Greg & Melanie Webb	38 years
31st	Julie & Robert Pell	42 years

If your birthday or anniversary is not showing up in our publications, it means we don't have the information in the church office. Please share.

SERVING IN MARCH

	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Acolyte Early	James Watkins	Blake Hoffman	Adam Hoffman	Volunteer Appreciated	Volunteer Appreciated
Late	Rhea Claire Riley	Scarlett Ellingson	Carter Ellingson	Miles Hendrix	Jack Carlton
Altar Flowers	<i>Lent—No Flowers</i>	<i>Lent—No Flowers</i>	<i>Lent—No Flowers</i>	<i>Lent—No Flowers</i>	<i>Lent—No Flowers</i>
Altar Guild	Rachael Freeman, Carolyn Watkins, Carol Wyndham				
Bulletins	Angie Meetze & Jenny Stone				
Coffee Time	Gloria Sargent	Amanda Johnson	Evangelism	Kitchen Ministry	
Communion Servers Early	Bread: Pastor Cassie Wine: Pastor Judson	Bread: Pastor Judson Pastor Cassie Wine: Ellen Knehans Michele Zee	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Brenda Hedgecock LeeAnn Crapps	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Donna Alford Judy Nichols	Bread: Pastor Judson Pastor Cassie Wine: LeeAnn Crapps Brenda Hedgecock
Late	Bread: Pastor Cassie Wine: Pastor Judson	Bread: Pastor Judson Pastor Cassie Wine: Linda Gable Doreen Edmondson	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Marie Eargle Barbara Weed	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Debra Carlsen Catherine Oxner	Bread: Pastor Judson Pastor Cassie Wine: Jenny Stone Catherine Oxner
Greeters Early	Rochelle Roof	Amy Hoffman	Amy Hoffman	Amy Hoffman	Amy Hoffman
Late	Volunteer Appreciated	Rochelle Roof	Volunteer Appreciated	Volunteer Appreciated	Volunteer Appreciated
Lectors Early	Judy Nichols	Michele Zee	Michele Zee	Judy Nichols	Paul Robison
Late	Donna Shealy	Debbie Marcolini	Marie Eargle	Catherine Oxner	Tommy Chaplin
Pew Crew	Bob & Jeanne Dermbach				
Ushers Early & Late	Dory Arnold & Bobby Harmon—Co-Chairs Michael Carter, Ed Hedgecock, Dustin Hoffman, Stephen Kupchinsky, Chris & Ken Lunsford, Jesse Riley, and Meagan Schneider				

**MARCH
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
12:30 pm Confirmation / YR
 4:00 pm Cub Scouts / SH
 4:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal
 5:00 pm Youth / YR

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

11:00 am Staff Meeting/CR

WEDNESDAY

10:00 am Bible Study / FH
 11:15 am Lenten Worship
 6:15 pm Chancel Choir
 7:00 pm Lenten Worship

THURSDAY

6:00 pm Mustard Seeds/ FH

CR=Conference Room
 FH=Fellowship Hall
 GR=Gathering Room behind PLC
 PLC=Parish Life Center
 SH=Scout Hut
 YR=Youth Room

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Women's Retreat 9:30 am
8	9	10 Service 6 pm/FH Safety 6:30 pm Evangelism 7 pm/FH	11	12	13	14
15 Council 3 pm/CR SonShine & Angel Choirs sing @ 11 am	16	17 Finance 7 pm/CR	18	19	20	21 Cemetery Clean-up 9 am
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Bunny Bash 9:30 am
29 	30	31				



Each Wednesday
 11:15 am
 and
 7:00 pm

