



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

Staff

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

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

Open Position
Youth & Young Adult Director

Carol Wyndham
Administrative Coordinator
Organist/Accompanist
office@stpeterslexsc.org
803-360-7137

Thoughts from Pastor Judson

Romans 6:1-5 *What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. (ESV)*

November gives us the chance to focus on two important days within the church year. The first is All Saints Sunday. On this day, we remember all those that have gone before us, especially those that have entered into the church triumphant in the past year. We grieve their passing, but continue to give praise to God for his care of them and for us during this time. This year at St. Peter's we especially remember:

Russel Bickley	Jon Monson
Anna Clement	Becky Smith
Steve Evans	John Stealey
Pr. Larry Long	The Many Friends & Family of St. Peter's

At the end of the month we celebrate the last Sunday of the liturgical calendar: Christ the King Sunday. It closes out the church year by reminding us that our Lord Jesus sits on the right hand of the Father, ruling in eternity as King. This is only possible because our Lord came to earth and died on the cross. Without the cross, there is no resurrection and no ascension. With the cross, there is resurrection & ascension. Christ has gone before us and now sits at the right hand of the Father in eternal glory. This gives us hope towards a future with God in his kingdom forever. The saints that have gone before us are already experiencing the eternal care of God and as we celebrate Jesus' eternal reign, we look with hope for the coming of the Kingdom and the appearance of the Kings of Kings and Lord of Lords.

God's Peace,
Pastor Judson

Church Business

Funds	Monthly Fund Total
General	\$41,834.58
ALS	\$275.00
Bereavement Meals	\$55.00
Boy Scouts	\$200.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$100.00
David Davis Ministry	\$350.00
Ekkas	\$125.00
Endowment	\$1,685.00
Maintenance	\$1,980.00
Men's Retreat	\$25.00
Mission Lexington	\$125.00
Safety	\$150.00
School Supplies	\$300.00
Snack Sacks	\$929.00
Youth Ministry	\$3.00
Ann Clements Memorial	\$350.00
Becky Smith Memorial	\$500.00
TOTAL GIVING for September	\$49,286.58

St. Peter's By the Numbers January 1—September 30, 2023*	
Total Budget Received 2023	\$ 438,255.50
Total Budget Spent 2023	\$ 440,543.85
Under	\$ 2,288.35
*Because our newsletter is published before the end of the month, the numbers here & for the month, will always be a month behind.	

Ministry Highlights

by Karen Cook

Church Council met October 8th @ 4 pm.

Absent: Elizabeth Covington, Paul Robison, & Tommy Stone

- **Treasurer's** report on the left. FYI—We had a few large insurance payments this month.
- **Bus/Van** new logo has been corrected (thanks Tommy Stone for noticing) & taxes paid on the bus.
- **Education** has a new page in the Proclaimer. Bibles will be given to 1st & 6th graders in January.
- **Evangelism** is selling long-sleeve t-shirts with our new logo on the back. New billboard has been installed near Spool Wheel Road.
- **Kitchen** in FH renovation is complete!
- **Property:** New flooring has been installed in hall leading to Fellowship Hall.
- **Safety:** New keypad installation complete.
- **Service** is busy! See pg.9
- **Stewardship/Finance** has completed work on 2024 Spending Plan.
- **Worship & Music** has purchased a new Nativity Set. Thanksgiving Service planned for Sun., Nov. 19th. Dec. 24th 10 am Children's Pageant in PLC with cookies afterwards. Dec. 24th 5:30 pm & 10 pm our traditional Candlelight services. Real candles this year.
- **Youth** raised over \$1600 at their spaghetti lunch. They have decided not to attend the gathering in Texas, but will go on a mission trip instead. We will host the Carolinas Youth Reformation Party on November 5th. Our search continues for a new Youth Director.

Next meeting is November 12th @ 4 pm



Annual Meeting

WHAT? Congregational Meeting to elect 2024 Council members, Endowment Board member, to discuss and approve the Proposed Spending Plan for 2024 (pg. 5-6), and to vote on updates to the Church By-Laws (pg. 4).

WHERE? Sanctuary

WHO? Voting members of the congregation*

The following **adult members** have been nominated to serve on **Church Council**. You will be asked to choose **FIVE** from this list. The top four will serve 3-year terms. The one in 5th place will serve a 1-year term.

Donna Alford	Karen Gobbi	Paul Schreiber
Martin Bowers	Debbie Marcolini	Jo Wessinger
Jeffrey Crapps	Rachel Price	
Doreen Edmondson	Chip Rhoads	

The following **youth member** has been nominated to serve on **Church Council**. You will be asked to choose **ONE**.

Addison Cook (daughter of Brian & Karen Cook)

The following have been nominated by Council to serve on the **Endowment Board**. You will be asked to choose **ONE**.

5-year term: Bill Jennings or Catherine Oxner

The 2024 Spending Plan will also be discussed and approved. Copies of the proposed plan can be found on page 5-6 of this newsletter.

**The St. Peter's Lutheran Church Constitution states that "Voting Members are confirmed members who have communed and made a contribution of record during the current or preceding calendar year." The Constitution also states that "voting by proxy or by absentee ballot shall not be permitted."*





By-Law Updates

If adopted, effective date November 12, 2023: Youth Committee, section 6, page 17 add as item 11

There shall be a Youth Ministry Committee whose responsibility is to assist the Youth and Young Adult Director in planning and implementing programming for Club 345, (3rd-5th grades), Junior Youth (grades 6th-8th), Senior Youth (grades 9th-12th) & young adults. Youth and young adult activities may include, but not limited to, Youth Missions, Youth Week, seasonal retreats, adopt a college student, and young adult small group activities.

If adopted, these will take effect January 1, 2024:

Section 9: St. Peter's Endowment Board Membership & Responsibilities, page 19, item 1

Last sentence change: instead of "The Church Council of the Congregation" to be "The Stewardship and Finance Committee shall nominate two (2) persons for each seat expiring and the Church Council will approve each candidate to be elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting."

Section 10: St. Peter's Cemetery Endowment Board Membership & Responsibilities, page 21, item 1

The sentence beginning "Upon adoption of this resolution," will be changed to "Upon adoption of this resolution by the Congregation, Church Council will appoint seven (7) members to the Cemetery Endowment Board from a list provided by the Cemetery Committee:" and not use the words "from a slate of the cemetery committee." The next sentence beginning, "Thereafter...will now read "Thereafter, ...the Church Council will approve (not appoint) each candidate to be elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting to serve a term of five (5) years."

Page 22, Item 2: Last sentence stating "In the event of a vacancy on the Cemetery Endowment Board, the Church Council shall appoint" will change the rest of the sentence to read "a member to fill the vacancy until the next Annual Meeting of the Congregation, at which time the Congregation shall elect a member to fulfill the term of the vacancy." The words "from the slate of the cemetery committee, a member to fill the vacancy" will be deleted.



Stand up & be counted.

Don't Miss the Congregational Meeting!

Sunday
November 12th
10 am
Sanctuary

2024 Spending Plan

BUILDING, GROUNDS, AND BUS/VAN	2023	2024	Difference
Grounds Maintenance (Contract)	6,000.00	6,300.00	300.00
Recurring Facilities	10,420.00	10,455.00	35.00
Paper Goods and Supplies	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00
Janitorial Services (Contract)	15,360.00	15,360.00	0.00
Utilities	33,300.00	33,300.00	0.00
Van/Bus Expenses & Insurance	4,300.00	5,138.00	838.00
Insurance - Buildings and Workmen's Comp.	18,826.00	25,005.00	6,179.00
Total Building, Grounds, and Bus/Van	92,706.00	100,058.00	7,352.00
MINISTRIES AND COMMITTEES			
Archive and Library	1,000.00	3,000.00	2,000.00
Cemetery		8,540.00	8,540.00
Educational	15,100.00	15,900.00	800.00
Evangelism	8,150.00	8,150.00	0.00
Golden Age Sunday	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
Homecoming Celebration	950.00	950.00	0.00
Kitchen	700.00	700.00	0.00
Loving Group	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
Safety and Security	1,200.00	1,500.00	300.00
Service	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Stewardship/Finance	4,100.00	3,900.00	-200.00
Technology	12,350.00	12,350.00	0.00
Women Ministry	600.00	4,500.00	3,900.00
Worship & Music	19,310.00	19,460.00	150.00
Youth	11,300.00	11,300.00	0.00
Total Ministries and Committees	80,760.00	96,250.00	15,490.00
BENEVOLENCE AND MISSION OUTREACH			
Carolinas Mission District	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Lutheran Homes	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Mission Congregation - Emmanuel, Sumter	3,675.00	3,675.00	0.00
NALC 20/20 Vision (Replaced Joy Mission and World Relief)	5,675.00	5,675.00	0.00
MC—Lamb of God Lutheran Fellowship, Simpsonville	3,675.00	3,675.00	0.00
NALC	43,768.44	45,487.94	1,719.50
NALC Approved Seminary Candidate or NALS	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
NALC Seminary	6,600.00	6,600.00	0.00
Total Benevolence and Mission Outreach	73,393.44	75,112.94	1,719.50

2024 Spending Plan

CHURCH STAFF	2023	2024	Difference
Senior Pastor—Salary & Housing Allowance	88,753.00	92,303.12	3,550.12
Benefits: Pension, Health, Death Benefit	27,323.54	27,749.55	426.01
Continuing Education/ Professional Expense	2,400.00	2,400.00	0.00
Car Allowance	4,800.00	4,800.00	0.00
Cell Phone	880.65	880.65	0.00
Associate Pastor—Salary & Housing Allowance	61,316.78	63,769.45	2,452.67
Benefits: Pension, Health, Death Benefit	16,047.83	16,342.14	294.31
Continuing Education/ Professional Expense	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
Car Allowance	3,880.00	3,880.00	0.00
Cell Phone	968.20	968.20	0.00
Director of Youth and Family Ministry— Salary	36,067.50	36,067.50	0.00
Benefits	11,106.12	11,106.12	0.00
Continuing Education	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00
Car Allowance	625.00	625.00	0.00
Cell Phone	300.00	300.00	0.00
Organist/Accompanist Salary	30,289.94	31,501.54	1,211.60
Chancel Choir/Hand Bell Director Salary	21,105.54	21,949.76	844.22
Matins Choir/ Instrumentalist Director Salary	17,854.42	18,568.60	714.18
SonShine Choir Director Salary	3,496.19	3,636.04	139.85
Angel Choir	1,343.68	1,397.43	53.75
Administrative Coordinator Salary	39,560.10	41,142.50	1,582.40
Nursery Worker 1 Salaries	5,487.50	5,487.50	0.00
Nursery Worker 2 Salaries	5,487.50	5,487.50	0.00
Bookkeeper	14,177.00	14,744.08	567.08
Payroll Taxes	16,770.00	18,938.10	2,168.10
Optional Year End Bonus	3,825.00	3,825.00	0.00
Total Salary and Benefit Expenses	417,065.49	431,069.78	14,004.29
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES			
Supply Pastor, Speakers, Substitute Organist	2,400.00	2,400.00	0.00
NALC Church Assemblies	7,500.00	3,500.00	-4,000.00
Bank Service Charges/ Online Giving Fees	1,500.00	1,300.00	-200.00
Background Checks	500.00	500.00	0.00
Office Supplies	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00
Postage	2,750.00	2,750.00	0.00
Total Administrative Expenses	26,650.00	22,450.00	-4,200.00
TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES	690,574.93	724,940.72	34,365.79
WEEKLY NEED - 52 WEEKS	13,280.29	13,941.17	660.88



2024 Church Budget Information

The following notes highlight a few of the significant items in the budget (as seen on pages 5-6).

1. The church three-year insurance policy was due for renewal this past year. After reviewing the coverage and looking to insure the Sanctuary stained glass windows, it was decided to move the policy to Brotherhood Mutual. There is an increase in the premium but it provided better coverage for both the Church facilities and personnel. This resulted in an increase of \$6,179 for 2024.
2. The Cemetery Committee requested that the cemetery maintenance costs be moved to a budget item in the General Fund. This resulted in an increase of \$8,540 for 2024.
3. All Church employees were given a 4% raise in salary for 2024. The nursery workers were given a \$1 per hour raise rather than the 4%. This resulted in an increase in the budget of \$14,004.29.

If you have any questions about the budget, please contact either Ed Hedgecock or any member of the Stewardship/Finance Committee.

Endowment Challenge for the Remainder of 2023!

As stated in the September Proclaimer, there are several ways to give to the Endowment Board at St. Peter's including just giving *any* amount on *any* day you choose simply by putting it in the offering plate and marking it **Endowment**. Ok, that sounds easy, so where's the challenge in that?

The Endowment Board is challenging each family to give \$20—just \$20—between now and the end of 2023 to see what a difference it will make. What's \$20? We spend that (or more) on lunch at our favorite restaurant. Grab an envelope from your box (or one from the pew), add your name, and write **Endowment** on the front. If, as our database shows, we really have over 400 families, and each family gives \$20 before the end of the year, we could add as much as \$8,000 to our Endowment Fund!

Feel free to contact any of our current Endowment Board Members to discuss giving further: Adam Davis, Jeffrey Elliott, Brian Cook, Doug Schreiber and Furman Cantrell

Snack Sack Ministry

This mission outreach program began at our church in the fall of the 2011 school year, so this will be the 13th school year! It began with Meadow Glen Elementary and we still deliver to them.

The program provides a “Snack Sack” of food for children on the weekends and holidays during the school year. Last year we fed 65 children each week and we are feeding **115** children this year. Some of these children may not get meals over the weekend without these food bags. We purchase the prepackaged food bags from Harvest Hope for a small fee.

The children in need of the sacks are identified by school personnel and their identities are kept confidential. Our only mission is to purchase, pack, and deliver the sacks to the school. We have a devoted group of volunteers who are ready to pack the sacks and deliver them each week.

How can YOU help?

Pray...for this mission outreach program.

Pray...for the children who receive the sacks.

Pray...for the volunteers who pack & deliver the sacks.

And finally, if YOU feel led to give, we need your help with monetary donations. Please mark your check/envelope Snack Sack Ministry. You can also bring large plastic jars of PB&J that will be included in the sacks at Christmas & at the end of the school year. If you are able, please bring them to the Stewardship Dinner & put them in the bin in the Parish Life Center.

We are so grateful for your support of this ministry. If you have any questions, please contact: Edie Beaver @ 803-920-1748 or Jenny Stone @ 803-605-1325.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat...”

~ Matthew 25:35



Service Committee

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Thank you to all who donated & walked to help end Alzheimer's. We raised money by selling Donut Cards & Penny Wars. UofSC won the Penny Wars, so Pastor Judson took a pie to the face at the Stewardship Dinner. (And promptly kissed Bobbi on the cheek so she could enjoy some pie.)

MISSION LEXINGTON—Please note that we will be collecting food & donations for Mission Lexington during the November 19th church services. Currently all foods are needed along with pet food & personal cleaning items. We donated a total of 100 pounds of food in October.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD packing party & pizza is planned for November 12th for our youth. We will also pack school kits for our disaster warehouse. Please contact Bobbi Buff @ 803-463-4902 ASAP if you are interested in helping. We need to make sure we have enough pizza. Shoeboxes are available (in the PLC & in the Narthex) if you would like to pack your own shoebox. All boxes must be returned to the church by November 12th.

JOIN SERVICE COMMITTEE! If you would like to be a part of this exciting group, we meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our next meeting is November 14th.

SOCKS NEEDED! We will be collecting socks for Mission Lexington until the end of the year. Please put them in the Mission Lexington food barrel. Please remember they must be *new*. Thank you!

ALS FOR SHARON JAMES! Thank you to all who donated in memory of Sharon on October 22nd. We collected \$945! Your donation was much appreciated!

MISSIONS MARKET? We are considering a Missions Market in 2024. If you are interested in participating, or in helping to organize, please contact Debbie Dent or Rachel Price.



YOU ARE INVITED!

What? Bazaar & Garage Sale

When? Sat., November 11th

8 am—2 pm

Where? Shiloh UMC

1000 Spring Hill Rd.

Gilbert, SC

Baked goods, produce, canned goods, gift shop with local vendors. Hot dog, chips, drink lunch \$5.

*Dixie Black & Stella Hendrick
have a booth.*

Odds & Ends



Time to Volunteer

During the Stewardship Dinner, we had out the sign-up sheets Committees & places of service for 2024.

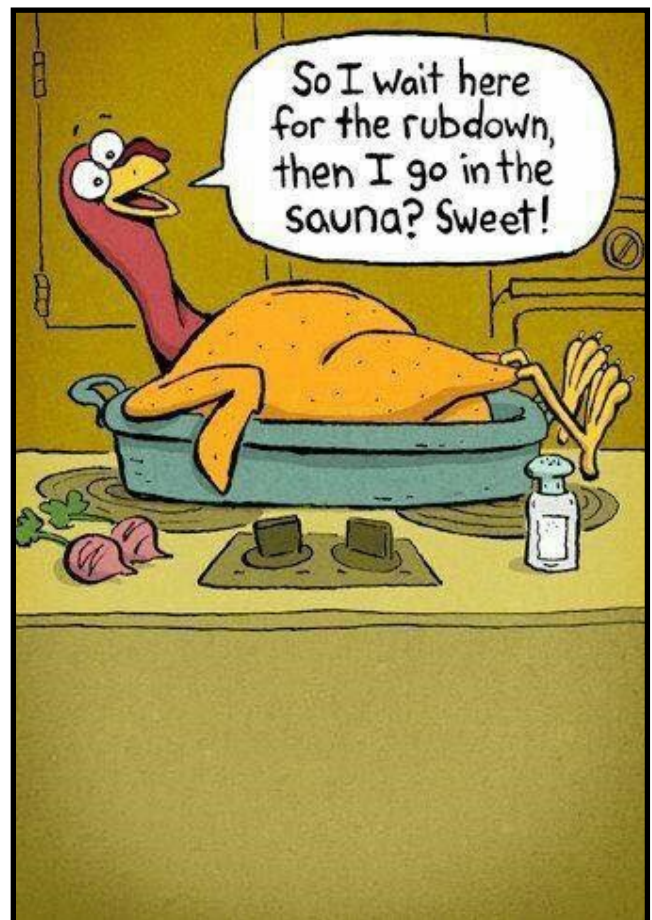
Sheets are still in the PLC. If you are interested in serving as Usher, Lector, Greeter, Pew Crew, Bulletin Stuffer, Altar Guild, Communion Assistant, or donating Altar Flowers, this is the time to sign up. Contact Carol at office@stpeterslexsc.org with questions.

FIRST COMMUNION After Christmas, we will be offering First Communion Classes for our older Elementary/ Younger Middle School aged kids that may be new to St. Peter's and have not previously had this instruction.

If you have a child who is interested in this training, please contact Pastor Cassie at pastorcassieb@gmail.com



If you would be interested in participating in a Grief Support group or have questions, please contact Pastor Judson at judsonmerrell@bellsouth.net





LUTHERAN MEN will meet on Monday, November 6th at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All men of the congregation are invited and urged to attend. Our speaker for the evening is Robert G. Woods, IV, Director of the SC Department of Public Safety. Rob is a Citadel grad, a 29-year veteran of the SC Highway Patrol (Major), a grad of the Criminal Justice Academy Leadership Institute, has a Master's degree in Human Relations & Conflict Management, and much, much more. You will not want to miss this!



VETERANS DAY IS NOVEMBER 11th. The Lutheran Men will be setting up a display in the Parish Life Center to honor vets who are members or former members of St. Peter's and we need your help! During mid-November, we will be setting up a display in the PLC to acknowledge our veterans by including photos of them in their service uniform. We will be collecting photos on Sunday, November 5th or they can be dropped off in the office during the week. The display will remain up until after the late service on November 19th at which time you may pick up your photo. Along with the photo, please include a note with the vet's rank, name, and branch of service. Call Brady Porth, Jr. with questions. THANK YOU!

Each year is a day we recognize our veterans and the contributions they have made for our country. Many veterans have made sacrifices and suffered both medical & mental wounds and are in need of assistance. We not only need to recognize our veterans, but also need to assist those in need.

The Lutheran Men at St. Peter's are sponsoring an appeal to provide support to our veterans in need thru the Lutheran Military Veterans & Family Ministries, Inc. (LMVFM). This is a Christian ministry that is dedicated to serving military veterans, contractors, and their families who are in need of care and assistance. LMVFM is a non-profit 501c(3) faith-based military ministry. In keeping with its religious beliefs, and its need to remain free of government instructions, LMVFM does not solicit or accept any government funding.

The LMVFM provides free counseling, general assessments, assistance with obtaining care and resources necessary to veterans and their families. This ministry does not provide clients with financial resources, but they do assist veterans with obtaining the resources they need. One of the most popular benefits is the Paws & Effects Program, which provides veterans with assistance to obtain a service/therapy dog has been a tremendous aid to veterans and families. You may support this ministry by making a designation on your offering envelopes to LMVFM.



WOMEN'S RETREAT @ Camp Gravatt!!

April 19-21, 2024 / Topic: Prayer

We will have room for 24 ladies. Please let us know ASAP if you are interested. The cost will be \$270 per person. This will include the two nights and 6 meals. We will arrive on Friday afternoon and leave on Sunday after lunch. We will have an installment plan:

\$100 due in December / \$100 due in February / \$70 due April 1, 2024

To sign up—[click here](#)—to get more information. Brenda will create a waiting list once the 24 slots are full. We need to give the camp a number by the end of December.

Call Brenda Hedgecock with questions.

The Women's Ministry is supporting the **LIGHTHOUSE FOR LIFE** as they care for people who have been in human trafficking. If any church members would like to help with this project, we invite you to join us by donating any of the items listed below. The items may be left in the breezeway & will be gathered by the Women's Ministry Team. All items must be new and/or sealed. We will take donations & buy items needed. Mark the envelope or check as **Lighthouse for Life**, place it in the offering plate, put it on the breezeway or give it to Carol Wyndham.

Freedom Bags are given to victims of labor or sex exploitation or trafficking. The bags provide basic necessities for personal care & are a token for individuals to feel seen & valued. **Lighthouse for Life** and other agencies utilize these bags as a tool to build rapport & show kindness to these victims.

Bags are to be filled with all of the items listed below. Items must be new & unused. Nothing extra may be added. Purchase a new backpack with zipper closure. Female—Choose M, L, or XL clothing size.

Required Items

- Short sleeved shirt (1)
- Body Wash (reg. size)
- Sweatshirt/hoodie (1)
- Wash cloths (2)
- Pants—joggers/lounge (1)
- Underwear (3)
- Deodorant (no roll on)
- Shampoo (reg. size)
- Conditioner (reg. size)
- Socks (2 pr.)

Required Items

- Toothbrush
- Dental floss
- Toothpaste (reg. size)
- Small blanket
- Water bottle
- Umbrella

Females Only

- Sports bra (2)
- Paddle hairbrush
- Feminine hygiene products

Youth Ministry

November

Sunday, November 5—We're hosting the NALC Carolinas Mission Region's annual Reformation Party from 3:30-6 pm. We'll have a devotion, dinner, and play silly games to compete with other youth group for the Martin Lutheran bobblehead trophy! Wear a St. Peter's Youth shirt!

Sunday, November 12—Pizza & Packing Party for disaster response kits from 5-6 pm in the Parish Life Center

Sunday, November 19—5-6 pm in the Youth Room.

Sunday, November 26—No Youth. Happy Thanksgiving!



December

Sunday, December 3—Outing to Little Bethlehem in Gilbert

Sunday, December 10—Cantata @ 11 am and 6 pm in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 17—Caroling to Shut-ins and Krispy Kreme party 2-6 pm

Sunday, December 24—Children & Youth Play—AM in the Parish Life Center

Candlelight Worship—5:30 pm and 10:00 pm in Sanctuary

Sunday, December 31—No Youth. Happy New Year!



Wilson Oxner

**PIANO
CONCERT**

Nov. 26th—4:30 pm

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Lutheran Men—November 6th @ 6:30 pm in FH
(*Rob Woods, Dir. Dept. of Public Safety & much more!*)

Congregational Meeting November 12th @ 10 am

Church Council—November 12th @ 4 pm

Thanksgiving Worship—November 19th

Office Closed—November 22nd-24th

Loving Group—November 28th @ 10:30 am

Lutheran Men—December 4th @ 6:30 pm
(*Bob Dernbach, head of Disaster Relief for Carolinas*)

Christmas Cantata—December 10th @ 11 am & 6 pm
no 8:30 am worship that morning

Advent Worship—Wednesdays in Dec.—AM & PM

Children/Youth Christmas Program—Dec. 24th—AM in PLC

Candlelight Worship—Dec. 24th—5:30 & 10 PM in Sanctuary

Lessons & Carols—December 31st—AM

Educational Ministry

Why Sunday School is Important

Katie Koob grew up in a Lutheran church; she was baptized as an infant, attended Sunday School & was confirmed. In 1979 she entered into the Foreign Services serving in Tehran as the director of the Iranian-American Society, a non-profit organized by the United States government to foster ties between the two countries. After only 4 months on the job, the American Embassy was taken over by Iranian students on November 4th and Katie was taken hostage. She was held captive for 444 days. Katie says it was her faith that sustained her. She put into her daily routine what she learned during Sunday School, confirmation, at home and in Bible study. Knowing who God is, memorized creeds and prayers got her through the 15 month long captivity.

While most of us will never face this type of difficulty, life will bring us difficulties, pain and heartache. What, or more importantly, *who* will you rely on to get through difficult times? Who will those we love rely on to get them through tough times? Through Sunday School, we learn who God is; by the things He has done, and most importantly, by sending his Son Jesus. All of this we learn through Sunday School and Bible Study.

Adult Sunday School Classes span all ages & life stages. Here's the current list:

- ♦ **Rufuge** is made up of young married couples with small children. Pastor Cassie teaches this group in the Gathering Room at 10 am on Sunday mornings.
- ♦ **Bible Busters** class members are typically (but not always) married and have kids ranging from upper elementary to college. Busters meet in room 210.
- ♦ **Joyful Believers** couples typically have grown children and are entering the "check out this picture of my grandchild" phase of life. They meet in room 209.
- ♦ **Seekers** group covers all adult ages and study various topics. They are taught by Larry James and they meet in the Fellowship Hall.
- ♦ **Adult One** Sunday School class is led by Bible expert Nancy Wylie and is open to all ages. They meet in room 202.



*Sunday***SCHOOL**
ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD
Growing in Faith Together



Notes of Thanks

Dear Pastor Merrell,

Lamb of God Lutheran Fellowship acknowledges with gratitude your recent gift. Your continuing benevolence to our congregation is greatly appreciated.

With a bit of adjustment in our meeting time, we are temporarily worshipping in the sanctuary of the Simpsonville Presbyterian Church during a complete renovation of their Fellowship Hall, our usual place of worship.

When we return to our renovated and refurbished quarters later this month, your gift will be most useful as we continue our mission efforts in the community.

Our congregation thanks you again for your faithful support.

In His Service,
Margaret Miller
Financial Secretary

Dear Members of St. Peter's,

Thank you so much for donating to Pelion Elementary School. Seeing so many supplies donated is a blessing! We already have students and office staff utilizing what was donated and the students will continue to get the supplies throughout the remainder of the school year. Sometimes students cannot afford basic items and sometimes items get broken or just need to be replaced. It is a blessing to see the students smile as they receive these supplies.

It is so great to see communities supporting each other. We are here for the students to help them learn & sometimes even provide some of the basic needs that are taken for granted. So, from the bottom of our hearts, we would like to thank you so much for your generosity.

It is with regret that it has taken us so long to get this letter to you. We truly appreciate your getting us the supplies at the beginning of the school year. This school year started earlier than in the past and we hope to have a great school year.

Sincerely,
Deborah R. Poole
Principal, Pelion Elementary



Faith
is not believing that God can
it is knowing that He will

Our Prayer List

Member Needs

Landis Ballington
Melody Boland
Ken Brock

Olin Chassereau

Paul Duell

Charlie Eargle

Summer Eargle
Kathy Fornal
Hannah Jones
Michelle L. Jones

Ray Jones

Connie Lindler

Bobby Martin
Kim Massey
Barbara Novak
Jennifer O'Neill
Marvin Parson

Buffy Pearson

Dottie Rivard
Steve Rivard
Mike Rowell
Tommy Shealy

Rich Smith

Carol Stealey
James Thompson
Elizabeth Ward
Jason Watkins
Angie Williams

Homebound

Betty Amick (Wellmore)
Wanda Arnold
Grace Harmon
Frank & Peggy Howard (Wellmore)
Lonna Paul
Oddie & Joyce Porth
Jake Rush (Wellmore)
Barbara Whiteside (Carroll Campbell)

Missionaries & Ministry Partners

David Davis in Brazil
N&N-World Mission Prayer League
NALC Mission Congregations:
Immanuel, Sumter, SC
Reformation, New Bern, NC
Trinity, Flat Rock, NC
The NALC

Family & Friends of the Congregation

Jerry & Ashley Anderson (niece & nephew of Cynthia Johnson)
Paul Aull (brother-in-law of Wayne O'Neill)
Steve Bachman (friend of Bill & Darla Jennings)
Lauren Buie & Kids (daughter of David Spence)
Jennifer Buster (daughter of Paul & Diane Robison)
Kathie Cashion (mother of Hillarie Vaughan)
Mike Casper (uncle of Mike Weidner)
*Angie Drafts Clamp (friend of Leeann Crapps)
Charlie Clamp (friend of Rylee & Gracie Ray Smith)
Danny Covington (uncle of Elizabeth & Michael Covington)
Doug Duell (uncle of Paul Duell)
Gil Ferro (husband of Barbara Ferro)
Dan Frick (father of Lisa Szuhy)
Al Gleaton (friend of Wayne O'Neill)
Sarah Harmon (co-worker of Karen Gobbi)
Ann Hass (friend of Bobby Harmon)
Jody Hendrix (cousin of Pastor Cassie)
Memory Jordan (family of Cynthia Johnson)
Don Kissler (friend of Kay Raasch)
David Kovacs (friend of Jennifer McMillan)
Donna Lanier (mother of Lisa Leitzsey)
Gil Leader (grandfather of Kayla Spangler)
Gerry Lee (brother of Joyce Shealy)
Donnie LeJohn (friend of Zack & Julynn Spence)
Emily Lyles (family of Ginny Bruce)
Wayne Marcolini (brother of Chris Marcolini)
Stephanie Maroney (friend of David Spence)
*Beth McMillan (sister-in-law of Keith McMillan)
Millie McMillan (mother of Keith McMillan)
Jim Orth (nephew of Doreen Edmondson)
Ronnie Palm (uncle of Julie Werner)
Ronda Porth (daughter of Joyce H. & Oddie Porth)
Brandon Shealy (grandson of Fulmer & Joyce Shealy)
George & Jackie Shull (parents of Kim Massey)
Krysten Sidaway (co-worker of Julynn Spence)
Fred Smith (great uncle of Rylee Smith)
Marion & Diane Smyrl (parents of Edie Beaver)
Jim Snyder (friend of Jennifer McMillan)
Kitty Spence (family of Zack & Julynn Spence)
Billy Switter (family of Bob & Patti Switter)
Caleb Taylor (friend of Wilson Oxner)
Catherine Taylor (daughter of Dick & Patricia Derrick)
John Thorndyke (friend of Wayne O'Neill)
*Fern Ulmer (aunt of Keith McMillan)
Linda Wilbur (friend of Jennifer McMillan)
Christie Williams (step-mother of Jason Williams)

Military

David Ballington (Army)
Michael Edmondson (Army)
Alex Schneider (Marines)
Matthew Teeter (Marines-Deployed)
Kyle Weed (Navy)
Kyle Williams (Navy)

Updated 10-30-2023



Serving in November

	November 5	November 12	November 19	November 26
Acolyte Early	Drew Sweatman	Anna Kate Davis	Morgan Davis	Lilly Johnson
Late	Max Cooper	Scarlett Ellingson	Wilson Oxner	Wilson Walker
Altar Flowers	Connie Lindler	Kristina Gilbert	Kayla Ellingson	Steve & Donna Alford
Altar Guild	Linda Gable, Connie Linder, and Barbara Weed			
Bulletins	Jenny Stone			
Camera	Debbie Arnold	Crystal Dennison	Debbie Arnold	Crystal Dennison
Coffee Time	VOLUNTEERS	Evangelism	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
Communion Servers Early	Bread: Pastor Cassie Wine: Pastor Judson	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: LeeAnn Crapps Jenny Stone	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Pat Allen Steve Wyndham	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: LeeAnn Crapps Troy Crapps
Late	Bread: Pastor Cassie Wine: Pastor Judson	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Kayla Ellingson Anna Stiglbauer	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Barbara Weed Doreen Edmondson	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Jenny Stone Barbara Weed
Greeters Early	Bob & Patti Switter	Jean Hundley	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
Late	VOLUNTEERS	Carl & Donna Shealy	Marie Eargle	VOLUNTEERS
Lectors Early	Steve Wyndham	Sheryll Gill	Chip Rhoads	Dot Rish
Late	Tommy Chaplin	Anna Stiglbauer	Donna Shealy	Tommy Stone
Pew Crew	Bob & Jeanne Dernbach			
Ushers	Adam Davis & Toby Porth—Co-Chairs; Collin Davis, Brady Porth, Jr., Yeats Porth, Russell Rawl, Mike Weidner			



November Birthdays

3rd	Arthur Cavanaugh Brian Cook
4th	Tom Lawhead Terri Powell Taylor Schneider Tyler Schneider Frank Howard (94)
5th	LeeAnn Crapps
6th	Amanda Geddings Steve Rivard
7th	Camryn Merrell
8th	Kim Massey Carol Stealey
9th	Terry Coker
11th	Ben Brune Parker Shealy

12th	Donna Lax Reita Stone Ramsey Wilson
13th	Dick Derrick Michael Sargent
15th	Rachael Freeman
16th	Harry Smith
17th	March Schneider Gracie Ray Smith
19th	Nathan Duell Jerry Howard Tanner Lindler Ally Shealy Kayla Spangler
20th	Kathy Cooper Gloria Sargent Hillarie Vaughan

24th	Kevin Gobbi Tyler Teem
26th	Claudia Chassereau Christopher Marcolini Connie Parson
27th	Lois Curtin Davis Schreiber
28th	George Bailey
29th	Zachary Elliott
30th	Jennifer Mann Melody Boland Godfrey Burnett Ricky Werner



November Anniversaries

1st	Robbie & Melody Boland	15 years
6th	Jeffrey & LeeAnn Crapps	30 years
7th	Ken & Shawn Lunsford	31 years
8th	Ed & Meredith Pearce	26 years
8th	Joe & Kristina Gilbert	20 years
11th	Ken & Suzette Johnson	12 years
12th	Ben & Fran Brune	7 years

17th	Chet & LeAnne Ballentine	39 years
18th	Arthur & Barbara Cavanaugh	51 years
19th	Tulley & Emily Dominguez	7 years
21st	Lynn & Bobby Arnold	28 years
21st	Craig & Victoria Davis	8 years
23rd	Phil & Alice Hughes	38 years
29th	Landis & Reba Sandel	54 years



NOVEMBER WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

8:30 am	Worship
9:30 am	Coffee Time/PLC
10:00 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship
12:30 pm	Confirmation
2:30 pm	Cantata Rehearsal
4:00 pm	Cub Scouts / SH
4:00 pm	Handbells
5:00 pm	Jr & Sr. Youth/YR

MONDAY

6:30 pm	Matins Choir
6:30 pm	Boy Scouts/SH
6:30 pm	Women's Study/GR
7:15 pm	Cantata Rehearsal

TUESDAY

1:00 pm	Staff Meeting/CR
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WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

7:00 pm	Ed 2:7 Group/CR
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FRIDAY

6:15 am	Men's Bible Study
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CR=Conference Room

FH=Fellowship Hall

GR=Gathering Room behind PLC

PLC=Parish Life Center

SH=Scout Hut

YR=Youth Room



November 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 Matins 6:30 pm/FH	2	3	4
5 Confirmation 12:30 pm	6 Lutheran Men 6:30 pm	7 Education 6pm Evangelism 7:15 pm Youth Comm. 7:15 pm	8 Lydia Circle 1 pm	9	10	11
12  Council 4pm Confirmation 12:30 pm	13	14 Service 6 pm Worship & Music 7:15pm	15	16	17	18
19 Thanksgiving Worship Harmon Reunion Endowment Board 12:30 pm	20	21	22 	23 	24 	25
26  Wilson Oxner Piano Concert	27	28 Loving Group 10:30 am	29	30		

Church Calendar

Did you know that the Church Calendar is on our website? Go to www.stpeterslexsc.org/news & click on **CALENDAR** to see what's planned for the rest of this year and on into next year.

ST. PETER'S

November 2023



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