



PROCLAIMER

July 2026

The Best Thing About Summer!

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 & 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

Let me tell you the best thing about summer time at the Church: Children's Ministry! Children have this awesome way of exploring, creating, imagining, trying new things, & unabashedly being themselves. Fully welcoming children and engaging them into the life of the church is such a blessing to all generations. It's good to be together and to grow together in our faith in Christ.

Jesus has a truly special way with children. He loves them deeply, & they simply love Him back. Jesus protects His children, and urges us to do the same. *Jesus says, "whoever receives one such child in my name receives me," and in the same breath warns us not to "cause one of these little ones who believe in me to sin..."* (Matthew 18:5-6, ESV)

Jesus always had time for children. He wasn't too busy for them, and He wanted them to know they matter. In Matthew 19, Jesus was teaching, moving to another place, and being questioned. Imagine a CEO fielding questions or a political candidate being interviewed on a particular position. They're hurriedly trying to trudge through to the next thing, but at the same time give attention to the person asking them something. Jesus' care for children is pure. When his disciples didn't want Jesus to have to be bothered, He made sure to sit with them and welcome them into His arms. *"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.'"* (Matthew 19:14) This is the image of Jesus' love that is cemented into our hearts, and depicted by many artists.

In summer when school is out, we get the great opportunity to spend special time with our children at Vacation Bible School, Music Camp, and other activities. I'll take a moment to share some brief little moments of blessings from God from VBS.

- Running & dancing through a foam pit with our kids, seeing undeniable joy in their soapy faces.
- Watching middle school boys take charge of our games each night, brainstorming together with their adult leaders & being given the freedom to serve others.
- Asking our children about why Jesus wanted His friends to stay awake & pray with Him while they worked on crafts.



Church Business

Continued from pg. 1

- Learning the moves to our music. Instead of “raising the roof” we were “high-fiving the angels”.
- Hearing kids of all ages excitedly tell me which service projects they completed on family night.

Jesus has been teaching me so much about sharing His love with little children. Thank you, St. Peter's, for loving our children like Jesus does.

Blessings!

Pastor Cassie

Funds	May Fund Totals
General	\$ 52,322.50
Boy Scouts	\$ 320.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$ 500.00
David Davis	\$ 540.00
Electronic Sign	\$ 5,920.60
Endowment Fund	\$ 1,675.00
Evangelism Special Fund	\$ 1,109.00
Kitchen	\$ 25.00
Maintenance	\$ 2,065.00
Mission Lexington	\$ 100.00
Music Camp	\$ 300.00
Refunds	\$ 4,009.36
Relay for Life	\$ 50.00
Safety	\$ 275.00
School Supplies	\$ 250.00
Snack Sacks	\$ 1,115.00
VBS	\$ 25.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 300.00
Eddie Wiggins Memorial	\$ 50.00
May TOTAL GIVING	\$ 70,951.46

Insurance Update! We have video cameras in all church vehicles capturing events on the inside & outside for safety.

St. Peter's By the Numbers May 1-31, 2026*

Actual Received YTD	\$ 285,788.57
Actual Spent YTD	\$ 273,229.08
Difference YTD	+ \$ 12,559.49

**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

Church Council met June 21st @ 3 pm.

Absent: Matt Hendrix, Mary Rae Oxner, Rachel Price, Dot Rish, Paul Schreiber, & Dennis Wessinger

- **Bus/Van:** Jason has gotten new tires & an oil change for the van.
- **Cemetery:** Scout member to refurbish the gazebo for project. To be finished soon.
- **Education:** August 9th is Critter Keeper event in PLC. Park days with Pastor Cassie throughout the summer. Looking for kid Sunday School teachers to add to rotation.
- **Evangelism:** served as greeters at VBS.
- **Property:** 25-year-old A.C. unit in Youth Room replaced. Cemetery paving soon.
- **Safety:** provided safety, medical, & first aid during VBS. Provided extra presence around campus during the Primary. No issues during either. Pulled a tooth.
- **Service:** led service night @ VBS. Packed 100 flood buckets. Packed 90# dog food & 70# cat food & took to Mission Lexington. Stuffed 175 envelopes with little Jesus & words of encouragement for flood buckets & Operation Christmas Child boxes.
- **Staff Support:** staff reviews have been completed by Pastor Judson. Meetings with staff are underway.
- **Stewardship:** looking good!
- **Worship & Music:** Sang @ Blowfish game, provided meal for VBS.
- **Youth:** Brunch on Wednesdays, young adult Sunday school, clothes to Burnsville, helped with VBS, went to Canada with four of our young adults, Youth to Virginia.

Next meeting is August 16th @ 3 pm.





Music Camp Registration

1st-5th Grade

2026 Music Camp “Put on the Full Armor of God”

Registration Form

Campers Name-

Member of St. Peter's? Yes or No

Parent(s) Guardian Name-

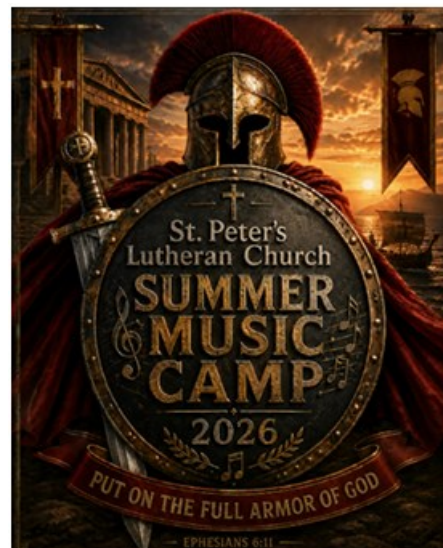
Contact Number/Emergency #-

Email Address-

Grade (Going into the 2026-2027 school year)-

T-Shirt Size- Youth or Adult (circle one)

PLEASE LIST ANY FOOD ALLERGIES-



♪ Fri July 17th– Dinner *PLC* /Meet & Greet– w/Family Activity

****5:30pm-7:00pm****

♪ Sat July 18th- Drop Off/Check In 10:00am– 10:30am *PLC*

****Pick Up @2:00pm**** -Lunch will be provided-

♪ Sunday July 19th– Drop Off/Check In 12:30pm-1:00pm *PLC*

-Lunch will be provided-

****Parent arrive @4:30pm for Children's Program****

-Dinner will be served afterwards-

I'M CONFUSED.

WHERE IS MY EVENT/MEETING?

Sometimes there's not enough room to print out things like Parish Life Center or Conference Room, so we use initials.

Here's a hint.

CH=Choir Room (on nursery hall)

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



Welcome to our series...

Everything You Wanted to Know About _____ But Were Afraid to Ask

This month: Missing Folks

It's difficult to keep up with everybody! You may not see somebody for a few weeks and assume they're going to the other service. But maybe they're not. It's summertime...maybe they're traveling. What if they aren't? How do we let folks know we miss them when they're not here. I have a couple of ideas.

- ♦ **Sunday School Rolls.** Every class has that one person who checks the roll. They usually have the list in a notebook. What if, in the front of that notebook, we put some "missing you" cards. When someone has missed three times in a row, we pull out a card, pass it around the class to be signed, turn it in with the class roll. The SS Superintendent can collect them, give them to me in the office, where they will be addressed and stamped and put in the mail.
- ♦ **They're not in a Sunday School class, but they usually sit on my row.** Yes, we all have our regular seats in the sanctuary and when someone is missing, we know it. Please jot us a note on the back of your communion slip and we'll send them a card as well. It may not have as many signatures, but it will at least let them know they were missed.
- ♦ **There has been an illness or death in their family.** Believe it or not, sometimes folks don't let the pastors know. Sometimes these family events require a person be out of town for an extended period of time. This is another great time for one of those "missing you" cards. Let me know and I'll make it happen or I'll get you the supplies and you can do it.
- ♦ **Illness, Surgery, & Recovery, oh my!** We usually get word about planned surgeries, but accidents happen and when they do, sometimes they snowball into hospital stays, surgery, & rehab. Your family members might not know to call the church or may not know all of the phone numbers of your church friends. In this case, it's up to you! If you notice a church friend is missing, reach out! Then please share with us so we can reach out as well.

Being a part of a church family is one of the most wonderful things you can do, but sometimes it takes all of us to gather the information & make sure it gets to the right places. We never want anyone to say, "I was sick for a month and nobody called to check on me." Let's take care of each other.

Thanks for your help!

Serving Him & Loving it!

Carol Wyndham, Chaos Coordinator

Luke 7:23 ~ "Blessed are those who are not offended by me." (ESV)



The views expressed are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Pastors, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Church Council, the NALC, or the Association of Sassy Organists.



Dates to Remember

This list gets **updated weekly** as things are added/deleted or updated. Please update your calendars as well.

July 1—Youth Event (call Clay)

July 3—Office Closed for Independence Day

July 6-11—Continental Youth Gathering in Virginia

July 15—Youth Brunch (call Clay)

July 16—Wingard Park @ 5:30 pm

July 17-19—Music Camp w/Molly in PLC

July 18 — Cemetery Clean-Up @ 9 am

July 20-22—Youth Event (call Clay)

July 26—Kids sing Music Camp Songs @ Coffee Time / PLC

July 28—Loving Group @ 10:30 am / PLC

July 30—Virginia Hylton Park @ 5:30 pm

July 30—Women's Book Club @ 6:30 pm / GR



August 9—First Day Back for SonShine Choir @ 9:45 am

August 9—Women's Tasting Event @ 3-5 pm / FH (details at bottom of this page)

August 9—Children's Ministry Critter Keeper Event @ 3 pm/PLC

August 16—Angel & SonShine Choirs sing @ 8:30 am

August 16—Church Council Meeting @ 3 pm / CR

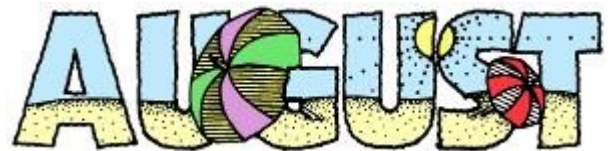
August 25—Loving Group @ 10:30 am / PLC

August 27—Lutheran Men @ 6 pm / FH

August 27—Women's Book Club @ 6:30 pm / GR

August 30—Endowment Event—Save the Date—Details to come

August 30—Noisy Offering



September 7—Office Closed for Labor Day

September 13—Golden Age Luncheon @ 12:30 pm / PLC

September 14—Women's Bible Study w/Lisa Leitzsey @ 6:30 pm / GR

September 20—Kids sing @ 11 am Worship

September 20—Church Council Meeting @ 3 pm / CR

September 21—Women's Bible Study w/Lisa Leitzsey @ 6:30 pm / GR

September 24—Women's Book Club @ 6:30 pm / GR

September 28—Women's Bible Study w/Lisa Leitzsey @ 6:30 pm / GR

September 29—Loving Group @ 10:30 am / PLC



Women's Ministry Taste Test Details—August 9—3-5 pm—Fellowship Hall

Ladies, you may bring any dishes you like: main course, salad, vegetable, drink, or dessert. Please bring a copy of your recipes to the Taste Test. Each participant will receive a booklet of all the recipes tasted at the Taste Test.



Thank you! & Book Club

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your love, support, and prayers during my confirmation. I am so excited to have my own LBW. I am looking forward to growing closer to God during my time here at St. Peter's.

Camryn Merrell



Dear Church Family—

I want to express my deepest gratitude for all the love, prayers, and calls following the passing of my beloved husband, Eddie. Your kindness and spiritual support has been a great comfort to me and my family during this very difficult time.

Sincerely,

Janet, Ron, Brandon & Corey Wiggins

Hey Dot!

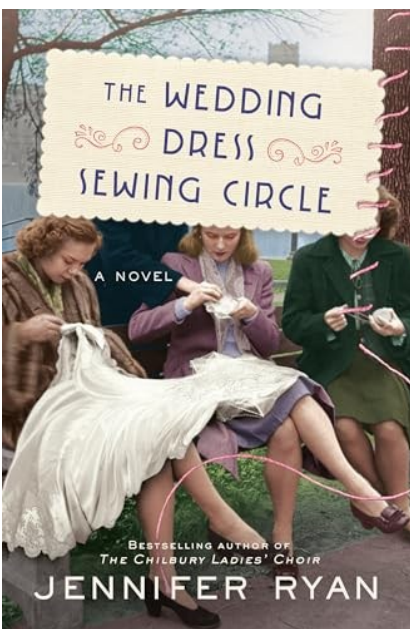
Thank you so much for being a wonderful part of our opening Faith and Family Night with the Blowfish! I can't tell you how much we enjoyed having all of you join us!

The choir sang so beautifully & I loved hearing about our hometown hero, your very special veteran! And of course, the kiddos!!! They did such a great job! It truly brings us joy to see everyone having such a good time during this very special night of fellowship!

And you, Dot...you are masterful at organizing all of this! Hats off to you!! Please share our gratitude with everyone! We look forward to making this an annual tradition!

For His Glory!

Linda Brown, Director of Group Outings Lexington County Blowfish



The Wedding Dress Sewing Circle by Jennifer Ryan is a heartwarming WWII novel about three women in a small English village who form a sewing circle to help brides get married despite wartime rationing, inspired by real events where women collected & mended wedding dresses for military brides. The story follows a shy vicar's daughter, a conscripted debutante, & a bombed-out fashion designer as they find friendship, resilience, & purpose through their shared project, learning to mend & make do while finding their own voices.

Women's Book Club – Thursday, July 30 @ 6:30 pm / GR



2025 Charity Crafts Projects

We have a wonderful group of ladies that meet in Monday afternoons in the Fellowship Hall. Using donated fabric and yarn, they provide things for folks in need. For example:

Hurricane Victims—Burnsville, NC (July and November 2025)

112 knitted hats	3 scarves	2 king-size fleece blankets
5 baby crocheted hats	33 dish cloths	1 potato bag
3 small Afghans	12 face cloths	2 dish towel kitchen shawls
7 large Afghans	4 hat & scarf sets	3 Christmas decorations
2 baby Afghans w/hats	18 fleece blankets	2 prayer shawls
1 baby hat & bootie set	26 quilts	2 dbl. bed fleece blankets
2 car loads of clothing		

Samaritan's Purse—Charlotte, NC

168 pillow case dresses

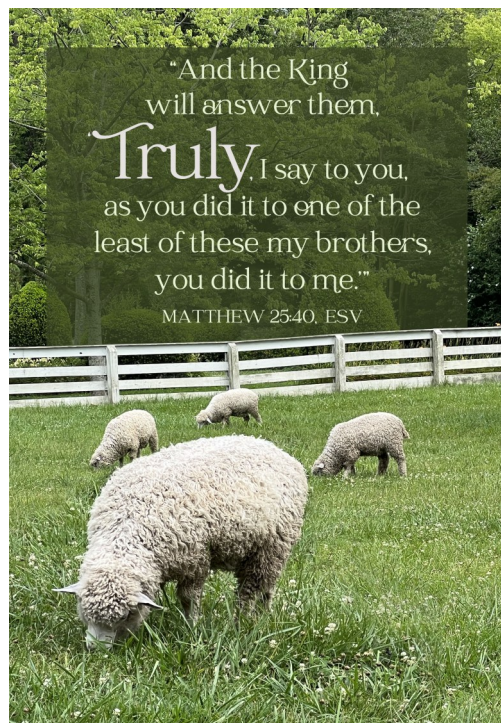
Cancer Clinic—Columbia, SC

70 prayer pockets

Children's Hospital—Columbia, SC

50 surgery hats

Thank you, Brenda & crew for being the hands feet of Jesus!



&

If your birthday or anniversary is not showing up on this list it means your information is not in our system. If you would like to be included, please put the dates on the back of your communion slip to be added to our database. *Thank you!*

GOD
BLESS
AMERICA





Serving This Month

	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26
Acolyte Early	Volunteer Appreciated	Volunteer Appreciated	Volunteer Appreciated	Volunteer Appreciated
Late	Miles Hendrix	Scarlett Ellingson	Carter Ellingson	Volunteer Appreciated
Altar Flowers	Bob & Barbara Weed	Jason & Angie Williams	Paul & Susan Schreiber	Volunteer Appreciated
Altar Guild	LeeAnn Crapps and Catherine Porth			
Bulletins	Debbie Arnold & Sandy Coleman			
Coffee Time	Volunteers Appreciated	Volunteers Appreciated	Volunteers Appreciated	Volunteers Appreciated
Communion Servers Early	Bread: Pr. Judson Wine: Michele Zee	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Ellen Knehans Steve Wyndham	Bread: Pastor Judson Pastor Cassie Wine: Pat Allen Brenda Hedgecock	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: LeeAnn Crapps Judy Nichols
Late	Bread: Pr. Judson Wine: Barbara Weed	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Jo Wessinger Martin Bowers	Bread: Pastor Judson Pastor Cassie Wine: Marie Eargle Jenny Stone	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Carl Shealy Donna Shealy
Greeters Early	Rochelle Roof	Ed & Brenda Hedgecock	Jean Hundley	Barbara Weed
Late	Sheila Kinnard	Rochelle Roof	Marie Eargle	Elizabeth Lindler
Lectors Early	Michele Zee	Steve Wyndham	Pat Allen	Dot Rish
Late	Kayla Ellingson	Martin Bowers	Marie Eargle	Donna Shealy
Pew Crew	David & Linda Heffner			
Ushers Early & Late	Ean Crapps & Keith McMillan—Co-Chairs Richard Connor, Alden Crapps, Andrew Ellisor, Kevin Gobbi, Tanner Long, Wayne O'Neill, Landis Sandel, Jim Teeter			



PUBLISHING DEADLINES:

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

We always have very strict print times, and during the summer, we have to sometimes print early. Please get information to the office ASAP to be included. THANKS!

Updated
 July 2, 2026





July Birthdays

2nd	Janet Wiggins
3rd	Robert Hook George Schneider
4th	Jesse Riley
5th	Allison Werner
6th	Pat Carr Meagan Schneider Nadaly Womble
7th	Addison Cook Kyle Weed Angie Williams
8th	Chet Ballentine Ed Hedgecock
9th	Chris Meetze
10th	Tommy Chaplin Larry James Lisa Szuhly

11th	Courtney Weed
13th	Gibbs Jumper Betsy Shealy
15th	Kim Elliott
16th	Valerie Porth
17th	Jason Williams
18th	Linda Heffner Keith McMillan Bob Weed
19th	Holden Hook Bill Knehans Darin Roberts
21st	Linda Ballington Gerald Long

22nd	Kay Amick
23rd	Debbie Dent Adam Ellisor
25th	Hannah Branham Joyce Smith (98) Julynn Spence
26th	Daisy Teem
27th	David Kinnard Carla Lindler Trey Porth Quincey Ray
28th	Talor Roberts
30th	Barbara Weed
31st	Dory Arnold

July Anniversaries

1st	Dan & Teresa Russell	54 years
2nd	Mikel & Donna Lax	43 years
2nd	Mike & Christen Weidner	32 years
2nd	Stanton & Natalie Weber	4 years
10th	Bobby & Christy Harmon	22 years
19th	Bob & Sandra Martin	8 years
21st	Stephen & Katie Kupchinsky	25 years
21st	Keith & Jennier McMillan	14 years
21st	Brett & Jennie Porth	19 years
23rd	Gene & Joyce Porth	38 years
23rd	Calvin & Missy Porth	43 years

25th	Tommy & Gloria Shealy	45 years
26th	Pr. Olin & Claudia Chassereau	62 years
28th	Brett & Becky Jumper	14 years
29th	Dwight & Kay Amick	14 years



JULY 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	Handbell Rehearsal*
5:00 pm	Youth

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

10:00 am	Staff Meeting
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WEDNESDAY

10:00 am	NO Bible Study
6:00 pm	Mustard Seeds/FH
6:30 pm	Chancel Choir*

*No Rehearsals during summer

CH=Choir Room

CR=Conference Room in office

FH=Fellowship Hall

GR=Gathering Room behind PLC

PLC=Parish Life Center

SH=Scout Hut

YR=Youth Room



July 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1	2	3 	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
NALC Continental Youth Gathering—Richmond, VA						
12	13	14 Cemetery 6:30 pm	15	16 Wingard Park	17 MUSIC CAMP	18
19 MUSIC CAMP	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Music Camp Kids sing @ Coffee Time	27	28 Loving Group 10:30 am	29	30 Virginia Hylton Book Club 6:30 pm	31	



Evening at Saint Peter's

Don't forget to pick up your copy of the church portrait from the church office.