



Volume 107 **Summer 2026**

Steeple Views

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR WAGNER

Dear church,

As I write this, it is still the month of May and we just got through the first mini-heatwave of the year. We are looking forward to the upcoming summer months with many special events and services at St. Peter's, including the Founder's Day celebration on June 14 and the events around July 4. But let me start with an event that shook our church community a week ago. Our Music Director Laurie Mueller had sudden, life-saving surgery caused by ruptured blood vessels in her brain. There was no warning signs. She was in great spirits the night before and the morning of. Then, without accident or trigger, her health spiraled down into red hot emergency territory.

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share in with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”

- Romans 12: 12-13

Our hearts are heavy with worry for her and we continue to pray for her health and recovery.

As she is expected to be unable to resume work for at least the foreseeable future, we have a plan in place for music at St. Peter's through the summer season. It's always amazing how many people step up when needed in this place. Liz Allen, Judy Coates, Linda Hubler and others made sure we are covered in the early summer time. During the months of July and August, Sam Tarasenko will be our guest organist. As always, we will welcome several guest musicians during the summer (see summer schedule).

The month of June is a time when we focus on service and hospitality, which are part of our mission and part of the gospel's commission. Every June we host families who are without a permanent home in our Christian Education Building under the auspices of Family Promise, an organization that helps people through these transitions and finding a home. During this time we always need drivers, people to prepare meals and folks who can check on our guests during the evening. Then, on June 15-17, we have some local service projects scheduled, including help for the Thrift Shop (summer closing) and work at our historic cemetery. Finally, in the last week of June (June 20-27) we are sending a dozen volunteers to Boone, North Carolina for restoration work. The

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

9:30 am
with Live Streaming
starting May 24th

ST. PETER'S CHURCH COUNCIL

Martha Heinze, President
Maureen Tang, Vice President
Dave Kinka, Treasurer
Diana Sundar, Secretary
Brooke Alderfer
Brian Brenfleck
Joe Browne
Lisa Rau Corr
Kelley Gaffney
Bill O'Brien
Sherri Retif
Ronnie Sensinger
Sharon Skrzat

CORE VALUES

As members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church we value and embrace service driven ministry and being "other-oriented" serving God by serving people both locally and globally.

As members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church we value and strive for meaningful vibrant worship, enhanced with purposeful liturgy, powerful relevant messages, devout prayer, glorious music and participation by both clergy and lay "ministers".

As members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church we value spiritual growth for all generations defined by well thought out programs available for all ages and strong support for families of all types.

As members of St. Peter's we value and commit to being an inclusive community promoting authentic caring relationships with each other and our partners in ministry, always treating each other with respect.

As members of St. Peter's we value and commit to community hospitality, placing importance on being an integral part of our community by using both our building facility and our actions.

STEEPLE VIEWS

is published quarterly by

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
211 S. Main St.,
North Wales, PA 19454
215-699-4604
www.stpetersnorthwales.org

Pastor Andreas Wagner
pastor@stpetersnorthwales.org

Director of Music Ministries
Laurie Mueller
laurie@stpetersnorthwales.org

**Director For
Family Faith Formation**
Tricia Riordan
tricia@stpetersnorthwales.org

Administrative Assistant
Ginny Bailey
ginny@stpetersnorthwales.org

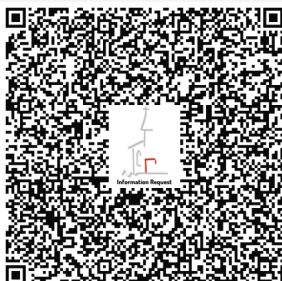
Sexton
Bill Johnson
bill@stpetersnorthwales.org

Articles for *Steeple Views* should be
submitted to the office or
ginny@stpetersnorthwales.org

*It is the Mission of
St. Peter's Lutheran Church
to invite all people to
know, live, and share Jesus*



Information Request



Pastor's Message continued

group will stay in a facility run by our friends at Grace Lutheran Church in Boone.

We joyfully practice service and hospitality. It's a big part of who we are as a congregation and how we show up in this world. We hope that you can help, support or pray for us. The famous saying holds true: "It takes a village." It always does. Thank you!

Pastor Andreas Wagner



Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals at St. Peter's

Baptisms:

- On April 19, we baptized **Piper Lahiff**, the daughter of Dustin Lahiff and Christy Lahiff (nee Kulp). The sacrament was administered during the 10:00 a.m. service. Welcome to St. Peter's, Piper!
- On Mother's Day, May 10, **Benjamin Edwards** received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism outdoors in our Baptismal Garden between church services. Her parents are Josh Edwards and Rachel Keatley. Welcome, Benjamin!
- The Baptism of **Kelani Leiby** will take place as part of the Holy Trinity Service (9:30 a.m.) on May 31. Kelani's parents are Allen Leiby and Meghan Leiby (nee Johnson).

Weddings:

- On Saturday, May 2, **Karina Sundar** was joined in Holy Marriage to Eric Burow at a private location in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Pastor Wagner officiated the ceremony. Karina is the daughter of Diana Sundar and grew up in our church.

Funerals:

- On the afternoon of Palm Sunday, March 29, we held a Celebration of Life for **Miss Justine Keeyes**. Miss Justine (her official stage name) was a renowned Philadelphia area jazz vocalist who also performed at the St. Peter's Jazz events several times. Many friends and people from the jazz community attended and gave tribute to her lasting legacy.
- Our dear friend and long-time church member **Jim Friling** passed away on April 16 after a prolonged decline in health. Services were held at St. Peter's on April 24, followed by a reception at the William Penn Inn and interment with military honors at Washington Crossing National Cemetery on April 27. Jim was well known for his humor, dedication and humanity. He served as head usher of the church for many decades.

CHURCH COUNCIL



Council Conversations

Have you ever heard the phrase “what’s old is new again?”

For those of us who are of a “certain age,” it’s inevitable that things circle back: “new” fashion styles, retro phones, slang... how many of us ladies can remember almost breaking an ankle on those platform shoes only to see them back now in the pages of Vogue?!

Well, it’s time to resurrect a tradition at St. Peter’s: New Member Mentors. We have been so fortunate to be welcoming new members at a time when so many newspapers (yes, I still read newspapers), magazines and internet pundits proclaim the “death of religion” in America. We are SO FORTUNATE to be able to show the community that our faith is worth proclaiming! A perfect example was the St. Peter’s Cemetery History Tour. Not only did we have St. Peter’s members, but there were members of the community who heard about the tour on social media. What an opportunity to mingle with non-members and to invite them to services!

So, once we welcome our visitors at church and they decide to join us as members, we want to make sure they continue to feel at home. How many times have you joined a group, but go to an event and you stand there looking around and feeling awkward?

Sharon Skrzat, one of our Church Council members, has agreed to shepherd the New Member Mentor program. Ideally, we would like to match each person or family with another person or family and to have them “mentor” their new people. Maybe invite them to sit with you, walk with them to Fellowship Hall and have coffee... introduce them around.

It’s simply a “friendship offering” that we all experienced awhile back. We aren’t looking for anyone to become “best friends” or to do anything more than be a friendly face on Sunday.

We will try to match ages and families with similar members. Please be open to consider mentoring should Sharon give you a call! Remember... you were new once too!

And... one last “save the date,” note: we will have a “family” Gala on Friday, October 9 to celebrate all we have done this past year honoring St. Peter’s 250 years. EVERYONE is invited and yes, there will be a charge, but we will ensure that anyone who would like to attend will be able to do so. (You may be asked to dance, however!!)

Peace,
Martha Heinze,
St. Peter’s Council President



*“The present moment is filled
with joy and happiness.
If you are attentive, you will see it.”*

~ Thích Nhất Hạnh

From your Finance Team

From a financial viewpoint, the first four months of 2026 have been good. We were blessed with General Fund offerings and other sources of income that were significantly over budget, while expenses were only a small amount over budget. This resulted in a General Fund Surplus of \$8191 as of April 30th.

The Maintenance Fund did not do as well. Although giving to this Fund was good, high ice/snow removal costs resulted in a decrease in the balance from \$4525 to \$4097.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the various Funds of St. Peter's and the many ministries we support.

A copy of the April Treasurer's Report is attached.

Submitted by
Brooke Alderfer



Hello church,

You may have heard that we are celebrating a big birthday this year, and not just your church in North Wales but the entire United States of America - in all its glory and with its many flaws. But isn't that how we all celebrate our birthdays, wrinkles and all?

On April 26, we observed a beautiful colonial style birthday with a good number of people dressed up in attire from that period. It was delightful. We would be ever so grateful if folks would sign up to march as colonials during this year's Fourth of July Parade (11 a.m. starting time). There is a sign up in our daily email. Please use it.

The entire weekend will be special, of course. We have been talking about an informal gathering with music and food the night before (Friday, July 3) with our band, "A Common Thread" playing. In the early morning hours of July 4th (starting at 8:30 a.m.), we will offer a bike decorating station for anyone in town who wants to join the parade with bicycles. It will be our contribution to this public event. Like every year, there will be food and activities at Weingartner Park. But before that...

Our own Bernie Heinze will read the Declaration of Independence from the steps of the Elementary School. Your pastor will offer a prayer for the community and the country, and the town's church bells will ring in honor of this special anniversary at 12 noon.

On Sunday morning, July 5th, we invite you to an outdoor service on our lawn (9:30 a.m.) Please bring your own lawn chair. We also recommend having a bottle of water and maybe some sunscreen. We have shade on our lawn but it's limited and it can get hot that time of year. You may dress in America's colors if you like. Later that day, at 12:00 noon, I will read the Declaration of Independence in German from the balcony of the Henry Muhlenberg house in Trappe.

It will be a very special weekend indeed. Come and join us!

Pastor Andreas Wagner

St. Peter's Lutheran Church - North Wales PA
Treasurer's Report as of April 2026 (Multiple Account Groups)

Monday, May 11, 2026

Account #	Account Name	Monthly Budget	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD+ (-)	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Income								
.101.010	General Fund Offerings	21,353	21,266	98,941*	87,555	11,386	274,679	175,737
.101.020	Plate Offerings	500	563	1,469*	1,469	0	5,000	3,530
.101.021	Initial Offerings	0	0	367*	200	167	200	(167)
.101.022	Holiday Offerings	2,200	2,073	4,558*	2,700	1,858	6,000	1,441
.101.031	Bulletin Dedications	67	40	230	268	(38)	800	570
.101.040	Building Rental Income	1,000	1,230	2,730*	2,500	230	6,500	3,770
.101.050	Fundraising Events	0	0	0	0	0	8,000	8,000
.101.100	Miscellaneous Donations	950	4,884	7,298*	4,210	3,088	11,800	4,501
.101.101	Miscellaneous Income (annuity&choice\$)	0	201	4,561*	3,620	941	11,000	6,438
	Total Income	\$26,070	\$30,258	\$120,156*	\$102,522	\$17,634	\$323,979	\$203,822
Expenses								
.101.101	Pastor Salary	3,750	3,750	15,000	15,000	0	45,000	30,000
.101.102	Housing Allowance	2,333	2,334	9,333*	9,332	1	28,000	18,666
.101.103	Social Security Allowance	377	377	1,508	1,509	(0)	4,526	3,017
.101.104	Pension/Disability Benefits	846	846	3,462*	3,384	78	10,156	6,693
.101.105	Auto Allowance	451	450	1,803	1,804	(0)	5,409	3,605
.101.106	Education Allowance	125	125	500	500	0	1,500	1,000
.101.107	Medical Insurance Allowance	2,792	2,791	11,166	11,168	(1)	33,500	22,333
.101.201	Director of Music Salary	3,262	3,261	13,046	13,048	(1)	39,140	26,093
.101.202	Family Faith Director Salary	1,373	1,416	5,871*	5,492	379	16,480	10,609
.101.203	Secretary Salary	1,826	1,819	7,256	7,304	(47)	21,915	14,658
.101.204	Employer Tax (Staff)	599	598	2,408*	2,397	11	7,190	4,781
.101.208	Sexton Salary	1,326	1,326	5,304*	5,304	0	15,913	10,608
.101.301	Office Expense	825	822	3,960*	3,580	380	10,300	6,339
.101.302	Postage Expense	83	0	163	332	(168)	1,000	836
.101.303	Telephone & Internet Expense	200	202	809*	800	9	2,400	1,590
.101.401	Gas and Electricity Expense	1,088	1,921	11,953*	9,762	2,191	18,500	6,546
.101.403	Trash Removal Expense	108	108	432	432	0	1,300	868
.101.404	Water & Sewer Expense	70	91	525*	374	151	1,400	874
.101.405	Landscaping Expense	900	0	0	900	(900)	3,000	3,000
.101.499	Adult Education	25	0	0	100	(100)	300	300
.101.501	Family Faith Expense	100	100	400	400	0	1,200	800
.101.502	Convention Expense	600	0	525	600	(75)	600	75
.101.504	H.O.W. (Hospitality-Outreach-Welcome)	400	182	235	600	(364)	1,200	964
.101.506	Technology Expense	533	741	1,422*	1,161	261	4,000	2,577
.101.507	Music Expense	30	123	448*	224	224	1,250	801
.101.508	Worship Expense	50	176	832*	670	162	2,300	1,467
.101.513	Social Ministry Expense	25	0	0	25	(25)	50	50
.101.514	Stewardship Expense	145	161	869*	835	34	2,000	1,130
.101.518	Stephens Ministry Program	17	0	0	68	(68)	200	200
.101.520	Worship - Guest Musicians	150	0	0	300	(300)	1,200	1,200
.101.521	Worship - Supply Pastors	100	0	450*	400	50	1,200	750
.101.525	Worship - Supply Organists	0	0	0	200	(200)	850	850
.101.530	Insurance Expense	0	0	4,945*	4,750	195	19,000	14,055
.101.540	Benevolence	1,833	1,833	7,332	7,332	0	22,000	14,668
	Total Expenses	\$26,342	\$25,560	\$111,965*	\$110,087	\$1,878	\$323,979	\$212,013
	Difference	(\$272)	\$4,697	\$8,191	(\$7,565)		\$0	

Account Groups: 2026 GF Expenses, 2026 GF Receipts.

= Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

News from the Music Department

(Editor's Note: This report was submitted prior to Laurie's medical emergency on May 14th.)

This spring, the SPARK children sang with the choir on Palm Sunday, our Festival Choir sang the cantata "Song of the Shadows" on Good Friday and presented two vibrant anthems on Easter Sunday, and St. Peter's Belles presented a pop-up concert at St. Peter's on April 23rd in celebration of our 250th Anniversary. God's Misfits (with new member Benita Perotti) and A Common Thread (with new member Aidan Lauzon) also took part in leading worship services this spring.

Coming this summer – our summer series will feature different musicians each Sunday. Our youth will present some special music on June 7th, we'll hear the Montgomery County Band again, and members of the art camp held here at St. Peter's will showcase some art (and maybe some music also!) on August 9th. We'll wrap it up with a hymn festival on September 6th.

I'm looking for some singers and bell ringers for the North Wales July 4th parade – children also welcome! Contact me for details.

I want to take some space to thank everyone who participated in the music department this program year. Please let me know if I missed a name!

St. Peter's Choir: Rachel Benner, Alan Berger, Judy Coates, Stephanie Dunn, Gretchen Flanagan, Kelley Gaffney, George Gross, Jen Gutsche, Linda Hubler, Joy Jacobson, Meg Matlack, Nancy Moldofsky, Jamie Nouri, Lily Shaffer, Ronnie Sensinger, Nancy Simons, Diana Sundar, George Wunder.

St. Peter's Belles: Joan Anton, Charlene Bance, Tracy Calvaresi, Karin Clark, Dottie DeStefano, Gretchen Flanagan, Kelley Gaffney, Jen Gutsche, Ruth Ann Kolb, Bev McGuire, Diana Sundar, and subs Liz Allen, Stephanie Freidly, Paul Shaffer and Jonathan Mueller.

God's Misfits: Joan Anton, Brian and Sharon Brenfleck, Joe Browne, Karin Clark, Doug and Jennifer Mahan, Nancy Moldofsky, Benita Perotti, MM Smith and sub Paul Shaffer.

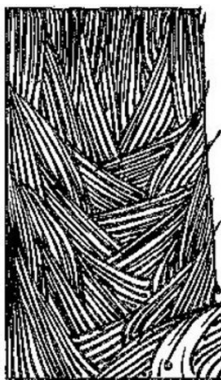
A Common Thread: Alan Berger, Brian Brenfleck, Mike Carlson, Karin Clark, Jesse Detweiler, Aidan Lauzon, Doug Longwill, Kirsten Olson, Mia Woods, and sub Jared Mehl.

Festival Choir friends: Brooke Alderfer, Liz Allen, Michael Benner, George Detweiler, Megan Flanagan, Chris Keep, Doug Longwill, Jonathan Mueller, Sam Tarasenko, Julia Wagner.

Early Bird Choir: Liz Allen, Evy Hayes, Linda Hubler, Ruth Ann Kolb, Doug Longwill, Cathy Simcox.

Thank you, St. Peter's members and friends, for another great program year!

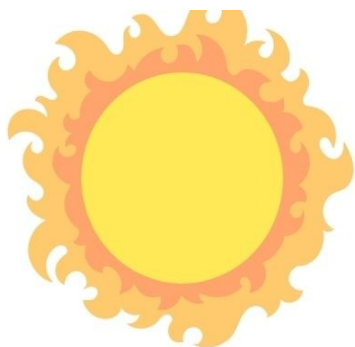
~Laurie Mueller



*Music gives a soul to the universe,
wings to the mind, flight to
the imagination and life to
everything.*

~ Plato





St. Peter's 2026 Summer Worship

June 7: The River

Youth-led service with carefully chosen, spiritually relevant elements of the famous American novel, "Tom Sawyer", which turns 150 on June 9. With Liz Allen

June 14: Come, Let us Celebrate!

A festival service to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of St. Peter's with Bishop Penman, several music groups, former organists, special guests and a colonial luncheon.

June 21: Radical Jesus

The gospel for this Sunday contains some of the most radical sayings of Jesus. Challenging as these paragraphs are, they prepare us to resist when resistance is necessary. With members of "A Common Thread" and Pastor Carlson.

June 28: Anyone

Anyone is invited and anyone can contribute in the church when the gospel is applied. Anyone is important and anyone can be a teacher ... About a vision of church that can be refreshingly different. With Liz Allen and a piano trio.

July 5: True Liberty

This service will be outdoors on our lawn (weather permitting) with our band, "A Common Thread". People are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and a bottle of water. The service will emphasize the true liberty that comes through the gospel.

July 12: Groundwork

The way our faith grows depends on so many things: our environment and upbringing, personality type, events in life... But we can do some groundwork to make our souls more fertile for the seed of God's liberating Word. With Sam Tarasenko.

July 19: Sunday of Holy Laughter

On this Sunday we will take a break from all too serious readings and matters and indulge in one of the greatest gifts given to humanity: humor. It will be present in readings, songs and, well, the people. Humor can be a saving grace. With Sam Tarasenko.

July 26: Gospel Sunday

Gospel music is a gift from our African American brothers and sisters. Enjoy the powerful voice of Barbara Walker, accompanied by Jim Holton, and hear the gospel for the first time.

August 2: Feed my people!

The story of the feeding of the 5,000 is repeated in all four gospels, both as a miracle and a parable for the principle of abundance rather than scarcity. The story is relevant in so many ways. With Sam Tarasenko.

August 9: The Art of Faith

This service will make connections between art and faith. After the worship service, we will hold a reception for the art camp students and enjoy their display of art celebrating St. Peter's 250th Anniversary with light refreshments and drinks. With Sam Tarasenko.

August 16: God of the Poets

For this Sunday, we will select a number of spiritual poems from various writers, both from the past and contemporary. Spiritual poems often touch on the deepest parts of our faith. With an ensemble from the Montgomery County Community Band and Sam Tarasenko. Enjoy!

August 23: Against the Flow

We are all familiar with the expression, "going with the flow". The Scripture readings for this Sunday remind us that as Christians we may have to go against the flow of cultural trends and norms more than we like. With Sam Tarasenko.

August 30: Love must be sincere

What does it mean to love genuinely and sincerely? We are called to love one another as Christ has loved us. We are even asked to love our enemies. With Sam Tarasenko and vocalist Amber Johnson.

September 6: Hymn Festival

This service toward the end of our summer season will focus on the beauty and spiritual truth conveyed in many of our hymns. Expect lots of congregational singing, organ music, as well as paired readings and prayers.



Family Ministry

It's hard to believe that the year has come to a close. There have been so many fun SPARK lessons and community gatherings on Ohana Sunday. For all who volunteer and contribute to the programming of Family Ministry - THANK YOU!

Here's a quick recap of the events this spring:

Nursery

It is exciting to share that the nursery room is being used again! Parents of young children expressed interest in a nursery program earlier this year and we started offering this ministry to our youngest members in March. Bree Thompson serves as the Lead Caregiver and Phoebe Benner is the Assistant Caregiver. The nursery will stay open until June 14th and then take a break until after Labor Day.

SPARK

Each week of SPARK this spring brought something different. Some weeks all ages were together, some weeks they were separate, some weeks Robin Alderfer led the SPARK 2 class in social ministry activities, and sometimes everyone just played games and had fun! Judy Coates continued to lead the SPARK kids in singing each week and Nancy Maldofsky led an Earth Day themed art activity in April. It was a fun-filled spring!

Below are the Bible stories that were covered in SPARK. The theme for several weeks focused on impossible events and that with faith in God, anything is possible!

Salt and Light

Jesus Walks on Water

Jesus Raises Lazarus

Easter Story

Easter Egg Hunt

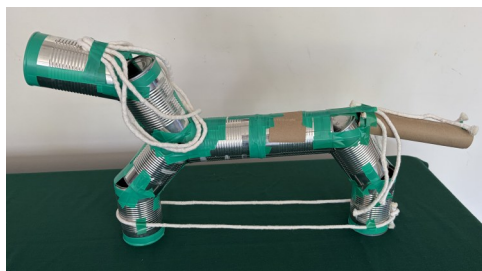
The weather was not in our favor this year for an outdoor egg hunt, but that did not stop the fun! We utilized the Education Building to create an egg hunt for all ages, with younger children in the SPARK Room and the older children upstairs. It was a great time. Thanks to Malcom Tang for helping to hide the eggs!



Ohana Sunday

This Spring had just two Ohana Sunday celebrations, March and May, since Easter was the first Sunday in April.

March: The Green Team led a wonderful event filled with fun word games, bird house decorating, and making sculptures from recyclables! You may have seen some of the amazing creations around the church.



May: A committee of long-time church members planned a special event that honored the History of St. Peter's. This event featured a tour through the building, with a tour guide at each stop to share their stories and fun facts; displays filled with photos, stories, and memorabilia; and a video of members sharing their memories. Keep reading for more details on this event!

Looking Ahead

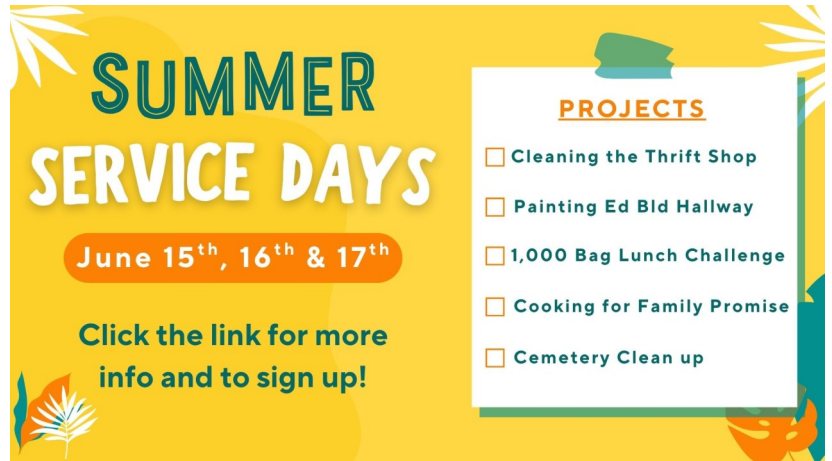
SPARK and Ohana Sunday will take a break over the summer and resume in the fall. Ohana Sunday will continue on the 1st Sunday of each month. SPARK will continue on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays. A calendar of fall dates will be available in August. Enjoy the summer!

Upcoming Events:

St. Peter's Service Days are Back!

When: Monday, June 15 - Wednesday, June 17th 8:45 am - 12:30 pm
(Afternoon until 3 pm is an option depending on the day and project.)

- All projects have a morning shift from 8:45 am - 12:30 pm
- Some indoor projects may continue through afternoon until 3 pm, for those who are available to stay
- All outdoor locations will be scheduled for morning only to avoid the heat



Where: St. Peter's Church, Thrift Shop and Cemetery

Who: All are welcome to participate. Middle school age youth are welcome on their own. Elementary age children need to have a responsible adult with them.

Projects:

1. **Thrift Shop** - Sorting, packing and cleaning up the Thrift Store for the summer.
2. **Painting the Education Building Hallway** - The goal is to paint part or all of the first floor hallway of the education building.
3. **Cemetery Clean-up** - Raking, weeding, and wall repair.
4. **Cooking a Meal (with Robin Alderfer)** - for the families staying in the building for the month of June.
5. **1,000 Lunch Bag Challenge** (Fellowship Hall) - Assemble lunch bags to be distributed by the E-Meal Ministry of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Souderton

Tentative Schedule (subject to change based on number of people who sign up and timing of completed projects):

- **Monday:** Thrift Shop, Painting, Cooking a Meal
- **Tuesday:** Thrift Shop, Painting, Cemetery Clean-up*
- **Wednesday:** Thrift Shop (if needed), Painting, Cemetery Clean-up*, 1000 Bag Challenge

*Cemetery clean-up is weather dependent. Once the weather is known, a day will be selected. Anyone participating in this activity will be notified ahead of time so they can dress and plan accordingly.

[Sign up here!](#) (or in the daily email)

Submitted by
Tricia Riordan

Ohana Sunday, May 3rd: St. Peter's History and Memories

As St. Peter's is celebrating 250 years, a committee came together to plan an event that showcased church history, with memories and stories from long-time members. The highlight of the event was a 5 stop tour through the building, where stories and fun facts were shared. It was an engaging opportunity for newer and long-time members to appreciate the history of this church and all that has happened here over the years. Here is a snapshot of what was covered on the tour. Also, be sure to check out the [video](#) of memories.

St. Peter's History Tour

Tour Stop #1:

The Parlor with Carole Lukens



- The original church was a log cabin on the cemetery site at Main St and Prospect St. It was shared with the Reformed Congregation and destroyed by fire in 1815.
- A new church was built on the same site and often referred to as "The Old Yellow Church". It seated 500 people, with galleries on three sides.
- The current church, at the corner of Church St and Main St, was built in 1868, in an effort to be closer to town.
- In 1903, the church was remodeled. The original steeple was reconstructed for safety reasons and a new bell was installed.
- The Parish House (now Education Building) was built in 1911. It was highly utilized by civic organizations for public gatherings until the high school was completed in 1923.

Tour Stop #2:

Church Bell with Carl Kolb

- The bell was made in North Wales at Durrin Foundry on 4th St. in 1883.
- It was donated to St. Peter's in 1903 from the Brunner Academy, a business and college preparatory school on Pennsylvania Ave, that closed in 1901.
- In 1905, the original bell from St. Peter's was given to Grace Lutheran Church in Hatfield, which they still have today.
- We ring the bell 7 times before each service, 1 ring for each day of the week.



Tour Stop #3:

Organ and Pulpit with Liz Allen and Linda Hubler

- The organ was purchased from the Charles Durner Organ Company of Quakertown for a price of \$1700 in 1903.
- Half of the purchase price was donated by Andrew Carnegie.
- In 2004, the organ was removed and totally refurbished at a cost of \$100,000.
- The organ has 603 pipes.
- The present altar was a gift in 1923 from the Haag family. It is made of Indiana limestone.
- The pulpit was a gift from the Luther League 1904.

Tour Stop #4

Hallway to Education Building with Renée Erwin



- The mural on the ramp was completed in 2011 and was designed collaboratively between members of the congregation, Pastor Wagner and Renée, depicting our spiritual journey.
- It was a church community project. Adults and children came together to paint and spend time together as a church family.
- The mural at the bottom of the ramp depicting pivotal moments in St. Peter's life and ministry was created in 2012.
- This mural was also painted by the church community and Renée and was designed collaboratively between Pastor Wagner and Renée .
- Lynda Cipriano was one of the key artists involved in the project. She painted many of the people you see in this piece.

Tour Stop #5:

SPARK Room/Gathering Room with Brian Brenfleck

- What we now call the "Spark Room" was once the "Gathering Room," where children gathered before Sunday School began. Students would gather and sing there before going off to the classroom for their grade level for Sunday School.
- The angel mosaic on the altar in the Spark Room, and the quilt hanging in the hallway outside the bell room, were projects completed by St Peter's kids.
- The space that is now the Thrift Shop, in the basement of the Christian Education Building, used to be the congregation's Fellowship Hall.
- The Youth Group and Bell Choirs swapped rooms years ago so the bell choirs wouldn't have to carry the bells up and down the stairs every time they played in church!
- During June, During June, classrooms in the Christian Ed Building are used as bedrooms for families staying at St Peter's as part of the InterFaith Hospitality Network.



May 3rd Ohana Event Planning Committee: Peg McConnell, Linda Hubler and Carol Lukens,
Video of Memories contributions by: Linda Hubler, Karin Clark, Ruth Ann Kolb, Charlene Bance, Bill Kesack, and Inge Coleman.

About the InterFaith Hospitality Network

Family Promise’s Interfaith Hospitality Networks provides emergency shelter for Montgomery County families with children who are experiencing homelessness. The Network provides families a safe place to stay, along with supportive services, for approximately 90 days.

Shelter Entry

Family Promise participates in Your Way Home, Montgomery County’s unified and coordinated housing crisis response system for families and individuals experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness.

Shelter Model

Family Promise’s shelter delivery model is unique and cost-effective. Religious congregations house and support families at their places of worship on a rotating basis. Families are provided with comfortable accommodations in classrooms converted to bedrooms or other safe spaces. Volunteers from the congregation, prepare and share meals, provide overnight assistance, and help with transportation. Many volunteers make special connections with the families, often providing a level of genuine intrinsic support that bolsters each family and brings them further into a community that is invested in their success.



Many Family Promise partnering congregations have been involved in the program for 20 years or more. The InterFaith Hospitality Network is non-denominational. This is St Peter’s sixth year serving as a host.

Shelter Families

Participating families spend the day at work, school, or at one of Family Promise’s two Day Centers, where staff provides intensive case management and comprehensive support services to help families resolve their homelessness. These services help parents care for themselves and their families, improve their life skills and decision-making abilities, and develop the internal resources necessary to become self-sufficient.



Family Promise’s unique model can accommodate families of various compositions, including two-parent households and male-headed households. Most families are single-parent, female-headed households with young children. In FY2025, 90 people participated in Family Promise’s shelter networks.

Last year, 143 service hours were provided by 38 volunteers including 59 rides, 28 meals, and 29 visits. If you have any questions about the program or would like to volunteer, please contact Brian Brenfleck or Robin Alderfer.

Submitted by Brian Brenfleck

Thrift Shop Report

St. Peter's Thrift Shop has had another successful selling season! We are thankful for our consistent and faithful shoppers who enable us to continue to support our charities--Laurel House (Nehemiah's Way), Gemma, Ken Crest and Manna. We are thankful for our amazing volunteers who give their time and unique talents to keep the Shop looking beautiful and running smoothly from week to week. We are thankful for all the donations that enable us to generate funds for our charities. (We are especially thankful when the bags and boxes are clean and aren't too heavy!) We are thankful to Lisa Jennis who faithfully serves as our marketing director and keeps the emails going and the FB page looking beautiful!! We are thankful for the Week of Service volunteers who help us clean the shop at the end of our selling season. We are especially thankful for the prayers that keep this important ministry going. As we head into summer, here are some important dates to remember:

- **Saturday May 30th is the last day of accepting donations
- **Saturday June 13th is the last day open for business till September
- **Sunday August 16th (and succeeding work days) begin accepting donations
- **Saturday September 12th is the opening day for the 2026-27 selling season

Since 1993, St. Peter's Thrift Shop has been a beacon in the North Wales community providing financial support to our charities and an affordable shopping experience for many. Thank you to all for your continued support!

Submitted by Peg McConnell



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Mondays
2:00-7:00 pm
in Fellowship Hall



Upcoming Dates:

June 22

August 24

For appointments
www.redcross.org
Enter sponsor code:
St. Peters North Wales



St. Peter's has two more scheduled blood drive for this year - June 22nd and August 24th!

I'm hoping you can join us on one of these Monday's! Summertime is a tough time to get donors due to summer vacations! Anything you can do to jump in on one of these dates would be greatly appreciated! Never donated before? What a better time to start to help the cause. Did you know that for every pint of blood donated you save three lives! If you have questions, please reach out to Diana Sundar at Sundard@comcast.net or at 215-519-2837.

[Click here to make an appointment](#)

So far this year St. Peter's has collected 25 pints of blood, so that is saving 75 people. Since we started this cause back in 2010, St. Peter's has donated over 1,827 units of blood, saving over 5,480 lives!

Submitted by Diana Sundar

2026 For 2026! Annual Food Drive

St. Peter's Rocks – Record Donation Amount!

Thanks to the incredible generosity of St. Peter's members and friends, a new record of over 2046 items (and counting) were donated to Manna on Main Street and New Creation Lutheran Church in Tioga.

Special thanks goes to AA, whose members also donated their highest numbers ever.

Your contributions have made a big difference to many in need.

Thank You!
Joy Jacobson



Box City 2026

Ananda Jones and Robin Alderfer would like to thank St Peters for your support of Box City. Held at Christ Lutheran Church, Box City 2026 brought together more than 50 youth and adults from seven congregations, including two congregations from the neighboring NEPA Synod.

Throughout the event, participants learned more about the realities of food insecurity and housing challenges that many individuals and families face every day. The experience encouraged youth and adults alike to reflect on ways they can continue serving and supporting people in need within their own communities. One of the highlights of the event was hearing from Bishop Bryan Penman, who shared about his role in the Lutheran Church and spoke about the importance of continuing to raise awareness for those experiencing homelessness and financial hardship. His encouraging words reminded participants that even small acts of kindness and service can make a meaningful difference in someone's life.

This year's Box City fundraiser supported Todi's Place of Hope, a newly opened 20-bed transitional housing facility located in Lansdale, Pennsylvania. Through the generosity of congregations, families, and supporters, Box City 2026 successfully raised \$5,966 to help provide shelter, resources, and hope to individuals working toward stable housing and a brighter future.

A special thank you goes to Christ Lutheran, Harleysville for graciously hosting this year's event and helping create such a welcoming and supportive atmosphere. Their hospitality played a major role in making the weekend both meaningful and memorable for everyone involved. As we celebrate the success of Box City 2026, we also look ahead with excitement to Box City 2027, which will be hosted by Grace Lutheran Church in Royersford. Additional details and event dates will be announced once plans are finalized. We are deeply thankful to everyone in our congregation who donated and look forward to Box City again next year

Submitted by
Ananda Jones and Robin Alderfer

Build-A-Bag is Back!

Take advantage of those
**Back-to-School
Sales!**



BUILD-A-BAG
BACKPACK + SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE
JULY 1 - AUGUST 1

- Small & Large Backpacks - gender neutral
- Earbud Headphones
- Ruler
- Composition Books (wide & college ruled)
- Spiral Notebooks, 1 subject (wide & college ruled)
- Washable Markers
- Highlighters
- Notecards
- Colored Pencils/Crayons
- Dry Erase Markers
- Folders
- Glue Sticks
- No. 2 Pencils
- Child-size Scissors
- Personal tissue packs & hand sanitizer
- Reuseable Water Bottles

The poster features a chalkboard background with a pencil icon in the top right corner. Below the text, there is a photograph of school supplies including a red apple, a calculator, a pencil holder with various pens and pencils, and a stack of books.

This was Jazmin Stranak's speech/testimony on Sunday, May 17 as part of the Young Adult Affirmation of Baptism Ceremony.

In December of 2023, something came over me that I still can't fully explain. It wasn't gradual and it wasn't something I sought out. It was sudden and it was loud, and it said: figure this out.

I had been baptized Lutheran as a child, but I had spent my whole life wandering away from that. Not angry at faith, just... absent from it. And then one day, out of nowhere, I needed it.

So I did what anyone would do. I posted on Facebook. I asked about Christmas Eve services at local Lutheran churches. And one name stood out: St. Peter's.

My husband, Adam, and I came to that service not knowing what to expect. But I had given myself all the grace in the world, because I knew if I felt nothing, that would be okay too. But I didn't feel nothing. I felt everything. I walked out of this church buzzing, and I knew I wanted more.

Before I could reach out to Pastor to tell him what I was feeling and what I was searching for, he beat me to the punch. He had gotten my information from the guest book and made sure to connect. And that still means everything to me.

What started as my own quiet and confused search became something I never anticipated. My meetings with Pastor grew into a group. Our group grew into community. And that community grew into this faith affirmation you see today.

There's a parable about a mustard seed. The smallest of all seeds, that grows into something so large the birds of the air find shelter in its branches.

That random, inexplicable feeling I had one December night? That was my mustard seed. I didn't plant it and I didn't water it. It was placed in me. And I am standing here today in awe of what it grew into.

I am so grateful for this church, for our pastor, for this group, and for my husband Adam, who never once made me feel like I was doing this alone.

And today I am proud to say that I am affirming my baptism and devotion to my faith.

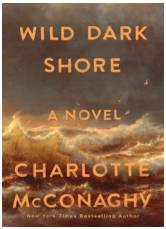


This is the young adult group who showed up and shared their experiences as part of their Affirmation of Baptism.

From left: Laura Hughes, Emily Lauzon, Aidan Lauzon, Kelley Gaffney, Adam Stranak, Jazmin Stranak and Josh Edwards.

St. Peter's Readers Next Books

St. Peter's women's book group meets on a Tuesday about every 6 weeks at 11:30 - 1:00 in the Church parlor. Contact Charlene Bance with questions.



June 2

Wild Dark Shore by Charlotte McConaghy

A family on a remote island. A mysterious woman washed ashore. A rising storm on the horizon. A novel of breathtaking twists, dizzying beauty, and ferocious love, *Wild Dark Shore* is about the impossible choices we make to protect the people we love, even as the world around us disappears.

July 28

The Lion Women of Tehran by Morjan Kamel

An “evocative read and a powerful portrait of friendship, feminism, and political activism” (*People*) set against three transformative decades in Tehran, Iran.

September 15

Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell

A deeply moving novel about the death of Shakespeare’s eleven-year-old son, Hamnet, and the years leading up to the production of his great play *Hamlet*.



Going Green

It's a matter of habit!

Chose Reusable glass or stainless water bottles!

Eco Quote: “*It's just one plastic bottle,*” said 8 billion people, Plastic Crisis

Key benefits of giving up plastic water bottles:

- **Healthier Hydration:** Reduces intake of microplastics, which can number up to 240,000 particles per liter in bottled water. NIH
- **Environmental Protection:** Decreases plastic waste, as most plastic bottles end up in landfills or pollute oceans, harming marine life.
- **Resource Conservation:** Saves the fossil fuels and water used in the production and transportation of disposable bottles
- **Financial Saving:** The average American spends between \$260-\$1200 per year on bottled water. Case Western University
- **If you want your tap water filtered consider:** Pitcher filters, faucet-mounted filters, under-sink systems and today most refrigerators have filtered water dispensers. AND... here at St. Peter’s we have a filtered water bottle dispenser at our water fountain outside the fellowship hall!

St. Peter’s Green Team: Robin Aldefer, Anita Bailey, Charlene Bance, Keith Bance, Ananda Jones, Bill Kintigh, Bill O’Brien, Sharon Brenfleck, Bill Hubler, Linda Hubler, Nancy Moldofsky, Cathy Simcox, Nancy Simpson



Around Church



Church Lighting, March 7, 2026



Blanket Making,
Sunday, March 22nd



Karin Clark,
Sunday, March 15th



Family Movie Night,
Sunday, March 15th



Jay and Julianne Farabaugh,
Sunday, April 5th



St. Peter's Readers,
Tuesday, April 14th



Adult and Children's Choir,
Palm Sunday, March 29th



Good Friday Cantata,
Friday, April 3rd



Thank You!
To all the volunteers who painted
Fellowship Hall.



Baptism of Benjamin Edwards,
Sunday, May 10th



PRAYER LIST

Basem Bayoumy
Kareen Bayoumy
Zachary Bickle
Sylvia Bingham
Carol Blythe
Demetra Camara
Ryan Cassel
Claudia Coley
Deborah Coley
Dolphin Coley
Michele Coley-Turner
The Crosson Family
Luke Dallas
Dagmar Diehl
Pam DuRand
Jayson Fetterman
Nancy Weidamoyer
Fetterman
Charlie Fuqua
Ursula Garden
Vince Giangiacomo
Ronald Gindhart
Terry Hammond
William Haas, Sr.
Laura Heebner

Lee Heist
Erik Johnsson
Susan Johnsson
Bill Kesack
Alicia Krakau
Denise L.
Pastor Burl Latshaw
Corey Leibowitz
Rhea Macasieb
Matthew MacInnes
Don McClung
Bob McGilloway
Don Meadows
Rosemary Mellema
Jan Miller
Shane Morrissy
Laurie Mueller
Richard Myers
Larry O'Malley
Edith Neil
Cindy Osborne
Edith Marie Parrish
(age 105)
Kim Pavia
Ivy Lin Ramey
Doug Rogers
Dave Sausser

Kile Smith
Roberta Smith family
Lindsay Spear
Pam Strain
Rob Strauss
Robert Storck
George Uhl
Lou Wade
Sam Wagner
Earl & Matthew
Wampole
Jami Woodson
Carol Wynne
Fred Wynne

AA members

People suffering from illness, depression, anxiety, natural disaster, violence, or uncertainty in their lives. People suffering in wars and political conflicts especially in the Ukraine and the Gaza.

**As a faith community, we're here to share in each others' experiences and lift each other in prayer.
If there is someone you would like to add, or remove, please use the prayer sheet in the Narthex or contact the church office.**



June

July

August

wishing you a
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Lisa Jennis	June 01
Charlene Bance	June 03
Bailee Charles.....	June 03
Mary Ann Landmesser...	June 03
Nora Ouellette	June 03
Josh Edwards	June 04
Cassidy Flanagan	June 07
Natalie Freidly	June 07
Nancy Simons	June 14
Emilie Lauzon	June 17
Elizabeth Walter.....	June 17
Stephen Wright	June 18
Melissa Kalb.....	June 19
Mitch Nguyen	June 20
Martin Burke.....	June 21
Nathan Browne	June 22
Gabriel Henderson.....	June 22
Jean Meyer	June 22
Patrick Ouellette.....	June 22
Julia Wagner	June 26
Aidan Lauzon	June 27
Geneva Wunder.....	June 27
Edward Barger	June 28
Noah Shaffer.....	June 28
Mia Woods	June 28
George Long	June 29

Diana Blum	July 05
Robert McGilloway.....	July 05
Jason Farabaugh.....	July 06
Daniel Long.....	July 10
Brian Coover	July 11
Megan Flanagan.....	July 14
Bill Kane.....	July 14
Chris Gaffney.....	July 15
Sarah Nguyen.....	July 15
Robert Coates.....	July 16
Evy Hayes.....	July 16
Caroline McGlynn	July 16
Mark Salerno	July 19
Ginny Benner	July 23
Rose Nguyen	July 24
Nancy Long.....	July 26
Grant Staudt	July 26
Dylan Browne	July 27
Kate Thompson	July 28
Sam Martin	July 30
Sally Neiderhiser.....	July 30
Joann Rauchut.....	July 30
Andreas Wagner.....	July 30
Peter Wagner.....	July 30
Wayne Stratz	July 31

Ruth Ann Kolb	August 01
Michael Vandergrift	August 03
Diane Zenker	August 06
Kaitlyn Walter	August 07
Christy Lahiff.....	August 14
Sam Tarasenko	August 15
Rachel Benner.....	August 16
Owen Gaffney	August 16
Ella Meyer.....	August 17
Joy Jacobson	August 18
Robert Kotulka	August 20
Mark Ouellette	August 21
Karl Hussey	August 25
William Hussey III.....	August 25
Michael Cipriano.....	August 27
Brett Kratz.....	August 27
Scott Lauro	August 27
Margaret McConnell	August 28
Rosanne Keep.....	August 29
Robin Alderfer	August 30
Nicole Alumni.....	August 30
Joseph Browne.....	August 30



Colonial Sunday, April 26th



Preparing the church for the Colonial Service,



Bernie Heinze and Greyson Duffy



Saint Peter's
Evangelical Lutheran Church



211 South Main Street
North Wales, PA 19454

It is the Mission of St. Peter's Lutheran Church
to invite all people to

Know, **L**ive, and **S**hare

JESUS CHRIST