

THE
VOICE
OF

ST. PETER'S

FEBRUARY 2019

From the Pastor:

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.”

Those memorable words from *Ecclesiastes* remind us that there is a time for everything. There is a time for beginnings and a time for endings. Thirty-five years ago, I finished my graduate work at the University of Iowa, and Ruth, Cathy, and I packed up our belongings and moved to New Florence, a little coal mining town near Johnstown, Pennsylvania, where I began my ministry as a newly-ordained Lutheran Pastor. Nine years later, we packed and moved to begin ministry at a new Church in Pittsburgh. In 2002, Cathy finished college, got married, and moved to Boston to begin a new life with her husband, Brian, and Ruth and I packed and moved here to Pine Grove to begin our ministry at St. Peter's.

Ruth and I made those moves to begin new ministries, but now the time has come for the end to our ministries and to move into something very new for us – retirement. So we will pack and move to Boston, where we will enjoy living close by to Cathy, Brian, and our two granddaughters, Anne and Rebecca.

Our last Sunday here will be February 17th. We will miss you and the ministry here. There is always sadness as things come to an end, but there is also joy as we move forward into new adventures. In our years together, Almighty God has been with us to guide, nurture, and sustain us, and we can trust that the One who always loves us just the way we are will truly be present with all of us as we move into the new life and adventures that God has in store for us.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Richard

Highlights from the January 3rd Council Meeting

The 2019 Budget was approved by the Council for action at the January 27th Annual Congregation Meeting.

The Call Committee was finalized with Steve Hikes, Tammy Hikes, Tammy Lengel, Vernon Stroupbauer, Todd Tice, and Lindsay Zimmerman as its members.

Beginning in March and lasting during the Pastoral vacancy, Council meetings will be held on the second Thursday of the month in order to avoid a scheduling conflict for the Designated Pastor.

The Council will hold its re-organizational meeting on Thursday, February 7th. Officers will be elected and committee assignments will be made. The installation of the Council will be held during the Worship Service and Sunday, February 10th.

CONFIRMATION CLASS NEWS

Our combined Middler (Eighth Graders) and Senior (Ninth Graders) class completed its study of Martin Luther's *Small Catechism* in January, and the Middlers are finished until next September.

The Seniors will meet at 9:00 AM on Saturday, February 2nd for their Confirmation Rehearsal.

The Rite of Confirmation will be held at the 9:00 AM Worship Service on Sunday, February 3rd, for our Ninth-Graders: Stone Adams, Henry Andersen, Macie Brown, Billy Ulsh, Megan Wolfe, and Logan Zimmerman.

The Junior Class (Seventh Grade) met on January 5th for a lesson on the Parable of the Prodigal Son, and their year is now finished.

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery Association
has cemetery lots available.

If interested, contact Kurt Wessner at 570-345-8020.

Prices are as follows:

<u>Member of St. Peter's</u>		<u>Non-member of St. Peter's</u>
4 grave lot	\$800	\$900
2 grave lot	\$600	\$700
1 grave lot	\$400	\$500

****Please clean lots of flowers and decorations in a timely manner.**

SPONSORS

Some things are still available to be sponsored in February.

Altar Flowers are available for February 3rd, 10th, & 24th – cost is \$20.

Bulletins are available for February 3rd, 10th, & 24th – cost is \$15.

Sanctuary Candle is available for February – cost is \$35.

Newsletter is available for February – cost is \$35.

Candle Oil is available for February – cost is \$15.

Call the church office (570-345-3306) or sign the charts in the hallway.

Enjoy The Convenience of Online Giving

St. Peter's wants to remind you that we offer online giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering and offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

-Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

-Credit & Debit Card Giving allows you to make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card.

-Online Giving allows you to go to stpeterslutheranpinegrove.org at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

*Please Contact Ben Moyer if you need further assistants. An authorization form and a "Frequently Asked Questions" flyer are available from the church office.

Thank you for your continued generosity towards:

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Church Finances (End of Dec 2018)

Dec: General Income: \$25,047.00

Dec: General Expenses: \$13,543.80

Checking Balances:

General Fund --\$7,107.18

Savings Account:

General Savings -- \$152.06

Stew Zerbe Scholarship Fund -- \$1,025.00

Total Savings: \$1,182.06

Separate Checking Accounts:

Memorial Fund: \$6,163.68

Youth Ministry: \$7,379.47

Capital Improvement Fund: \$16,270.08

a. Video/Audio ----- \$1,894.26

b. 2019-2020 Pre-Buy Oil \$1,010.00

c. Fellowship \$1,028.00

Total Cap. Imp: \$20,202.34

Certificates of Deposit:

Stew Zerbe Scholarship Fund CD's - \$8,970.19

YTD All Funds Total \$188,427.38

Includes the following Funds:

General, Lent/Easter, Youth Ministry, Plate, Oil, Benevolence, Memorial, Building, Capital Imp, World Hunger, Hall Rental, Sunday School, Flowers, Initial Offering, Weekday Church School, Hunger Food Table, VBS, Bulletins, Communion, Newsletter, Stew Zerbe Memorial, Endowment, Needy Fund, Candle Oil, Souper Bowl of Caring, Christmas Eve, Christmas Baskets, Sanctuary Light, Disaster Relief, Pentecost/Ascension, Harvest Home, Reformation, Thanksgiving & 200 Anniversary

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

✠ Those who were hospitalized, recuperating, ill, or in any need in the month of January:

Nancy Reichelt, Dennis Loy, Anita Loy, Colin Knoll, Tammy Christ, Terry Zimmerman, Marina Heim, Kay Potts, Bill Moyer, Bill Hendricks, Gerry Schwartz, Jean Bender, Deb Beauregard, Luther Kershner, Reba Strubhar, Helen Miller, Barbara Donmoyer, and Hayden Stroupauer.

✠ The Family of Al Miller, who passed away on December 19th.

✠ The Family of Eva Zimmerman, who passed away on December 21st.

✠ Gideon Koda Huff, the son of Matthew and Renee Huff, who was born on January 17th.

✠ Adelynn Mae Thomas, the daughter of Cody Thomas and Tessa Heim, who was baptized on January 27th.

✠ Livvy Lane Kreiser, the daughter of Michael and Tessa (Beck) Kreiser, who was baptized on January 27th.

✠ George Kenneth Stolarick, the son of Joseph and Andrea (Meynard) Stolarick, who was baptized on January 27th.

**The Prayer Circle will meet on Wednesday, February 6th @ 9:00AM.

Memorial Gifts... To the Glory of God

(Memorial Fund)

\$400 in memory of Betty Miller by Dennis Miller and Family.
\$25 in memory of Eva Dubbs Zimmerman by Stephen and Barb Hikes.
\$30 in memory of Eva Zimmerman by Erwin and Erma Beck.
\$25 in memory of Al Miller by Stephen and Barb Hikes.
\$100 in memory of Chester Luckenbill on his Birthday, January 14th by Rod Luckenbill and Family.
\$30 in memory of Eva Zimmerman by Bud and Mary Jane Brown.
\$500 in memory of Norman Beck by Marie Beck.

(Youth Ministry Fund)

\$500 in honor of Children, Families, Vets, and the Community for a Safe and Blessed Happy New Year by
Financial Secretary, Ben Moyer.
\$25 in memory of Al Miller by Donna Zerbe.
\$25 in memory of Eva Zimmerman by Donna Zerbe.

(General Fund)

\$30 in memory of Alvin Miller by Howard and Shirley Lengel.
\$30 in memory of Eva Dubbs Zimmerman by Howard and Shirley Lengel.
\$50 in memory of Alvin Miller by Linda Venszl.
\$50 in memory of Eva Zimmerman by Linda Venszl and Vince Kulbitsky.
\$25 in memory of Eva Zimmerman by Don and Barb Schwartz.
\$25 in memory of Alvin Miller by Dion and Kay Boyer.
\$25 in memory of Alvin Miller by John & Frances Heinbach.
\$25 in memory of Eva Dubbs Zimmerman by John & Frances Heinbach.
\$25 in memory of Al Miller by Carol Baldwin.

(Endowment Fund)

\$700 in memory of Jack Hikes, Violet Hikes, Chester Luckenbill, John & Ruth Hikes, Jim & Nora Aungst,
Luther & Vinnie Luckenbill, and Norman & Mildred Balthaser by Stephen and Barbara Hikes.
\$50 in memory of Chester Luckenbill by Steve and Barbara Hikes.

(Building Fund)

\$50 in memory of Eva Zimmerman by Jean Brosious & Jean Twardzik.

(Fuel Fund)

\$25 in memory of Al Miller by Beverly & Steve Morgan.
\$25 in memory of Eva Zimmerman by Beverly & Steve Morgan.

(Weekday Church School Fund)

\$30 in memory of Norman Beck by Marie Beck.