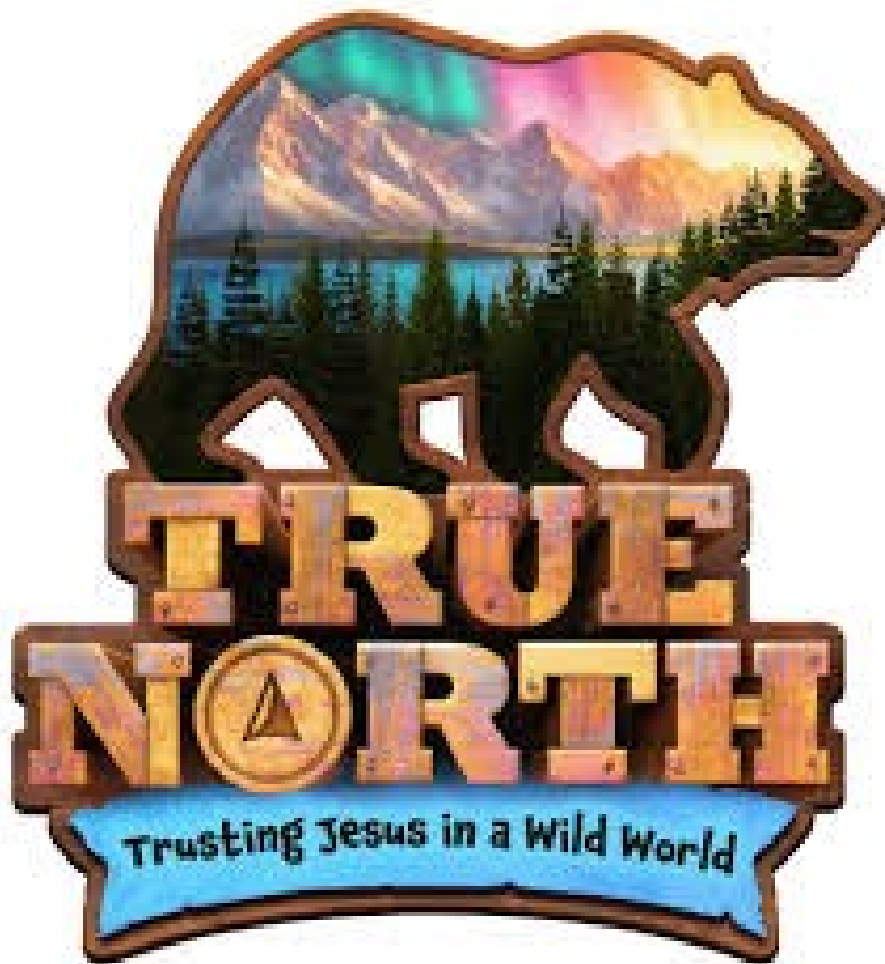




ST. PETER'S CHURCH
WEST PENN

VBS CLOSING PROGRAM
July 19, 2026



ST. PETER'S CHURCH, WEST PENN

"...where worship and service don't stop with the final hymn."

Worship Leader
Pastor Josh Nemeth

July 19, 2026 ~ Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
VBS CLOSING PROGRAM ~ 9:00 a.m.

(Please turn off your cell phone.)

We Gather to Seek God's Presence

Prayer of Preparation

Holy God, we are in awe of your creation, we are astounded at the ways you work in and through us and in the ways you work in the world. Surround us this day with your grace and your love. Pour your Holy Spirit into each one of us and then send us out to draw others closer to you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Savior. Amen.

Greeting/Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Prelude

"No Child Is Too Little"

by E.D.H. & E.D. Hobbs

Lighting of the Candles

VBS Song

"Let's Trust In Jesus"

by Group Publishing

(All who are able, please stand.)

Call to Worship

P: Welcome, friends! This week we've discovered something powerful:

C: Jesus is our True North!

P: When we feel lost or unsure which way to go...

C: Jesus leads us.

P: When we feel alone or afraid...

C: Jesus is with us.

P: When we need hope, strength, or help...

C: Jesus provides all we need.

P: No matter who we are or where we've been...

C: We come to worship Jesus, our True North!

Opening Hymn

CCLI #160-1646

Jesus Loves Me

Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us. Ephesians 5:2

1. Je - sus loves me! This I know, For the Bi - ble tells me so. Lit - tle ones to
2. Je - sus loves me! This I know, As He loved so long a - go, Tak - ing chil - dren
3. Je - sus loves me! He will stay Close be - side me on my way. He's pre - pared a

Refrain

Him be - long; They are weak, but He is strong.
on His knee, Say - ing, "Let them come to Me." Yes, Je - sus loves me!
home for me, And some - day His face I'll see.

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

Call to Confession and Confession of Sin

P: Jesus is the One who leads us, guides us, and shows us the way. The truth is, sometimes we don't follow that direction. We go our own way. We get distracted. We lose our way. The good news is this: God never stops loving us, and God always welcomes us back. Today, we come honestly, not pretending to be perfect, but trusting in a God who is full of grace.

P: Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin together.

All: Jesus, our True North, we confess that we don't always follow You. Sometimes we choose our own path instead of trusting Your way. Sometimes we hurt others, or forget to love the way You call us to love. We get distracted, we lose focus, and we wander far from You. Forgive us, Lord. Bring us back to You. Help us to trust You more each day. Thank You for loving us even when we lose our way. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

P: Hear the good news: Even when we lose our way, Jesus never loses us. In Him, we are forgiven, we are loved, and we are set back on the right path. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Song of Praise *(sung)*

*Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way;
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord I lift your name on high.*

The Passing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And, also with you.

P: Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

(The congregation may be seated.)

We Listen for God's Word to Us

The Reading of Scripture

The First Reading

Proverbs 3: 3-8

The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 14: 22-33

(After the Gospel is announced, all who are able stand and sing:)



Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

(After the Gospel is read, sing:)



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

(The congregation may be seated.)

VBS Song:

"This Is the Day"

by Lifetree Kids

Children's Time with the Pastor

Message ~ True North VBS Closing Program

Invitation to the Offering

The Offering of Our Gifts

& VBS Mission Project, Safer Streets Giving Tree

The Offertory

"Jesus, Friend of Little Children" by Rev. Walter J. Matthews

Adapted from J. H. Maunder

Prayer of Dedication *(in unison)*

Jesus, everything we have comes from You. As we give today, we give with grateful hearts, not out of obligation, but in response to Your love. Use these gifts to help others find their way to You. Guide this church to be a light in our community, pointing people toward hope, truth, and life in You. Lead us this week to trust You in every step we take. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *(in unison)*

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

VBS Song

"Alleluia"

by Elevation Worship

(All who are able, please stand.)

Closing Hymn

"Fishers of Men" (printed on the back page)

Benediction

Postlude

"Good-Bye Hymn"

from Hymnal Companion

Join us in Fellowship Hall after the service for fellowship time provided by the Sunday School.



THE ALTAR FLOWERS *are dedicated to the Glory of God. "May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord." II Peter 1:2*

LECTOR: *Nicole Hunsicker.*

Today, Sunday, July 19:

9:00 AM Worship Service ~ VBS Closing Program

Joyous Noise Offering

(Fellowship to follow in the social hall)

10:15 AM Adult Sunday School

11:00 AM Church Board

Next Sunday, July 26:

10:00 AM Outdoor Worship Service ~ West Penn Park

Covered dish ~ Hamburgers , hot dogs, drinks will be provided



Our July Joyous Noise Offering will be combined with the offerings from Vacation Bible School for their chosen mission for True North VBS: Safer Streets for Tamaqua's Little Feet. Donations will support their 11th Annual Giving Tree project. With your donation, you can make sure local children, families, and individuals have the warm winter essentials they need during the colder months. Your donations help to purchase and distribute hats, gloves, scarves, socks, hand and foot warmers, winter coats, snow pants, and boots through the Giving Tree locations at Depot Square Park and the Tamaqua Public Library. Because of the incredible generosity of people like you, more than 400 children stayed warm last winter. Over 3000 items are stocked to both locations. This year, Safer Streets is hoping to reach even more neighbors as the need for winter clothing and cold-weather gear continues to grow. Every dollar given goes directly toward helping members of our community stay warm, safe, and comfortable all winter long.

Show Them Jesus



***"Let the children come."
Jesus wants the small ones near.
Let their simple faith embrace
Their Master's love so dear.
Teach them of God's mercy,
His kind forgiving ways.
Teach them of God's promise
Of eternal, peaceful days.
Show them by example
The way He'd have us live.
Show them of what's right and good;
To care, and love, and give.
Through these troubled, worldly times
Fret your heart no more.
Know that children's eyes are on
Jesus Christ, our Lord.***

***- Lucinda Berry Hill,
author of "Coffee with Jesus"***

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"All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Sunday School" ~Roger E. Olsen



St. Peter's Sunday School VBS Program

We had such an awesome adventure as we trusted Jesus in a Wild World! *True North* is unmoving, unchanging, reliable and resolute. Jesus is our 'true North' as a faithful friend during life's journey. This VBS Week has given our kids a rock-solid foundation in Jesus.

He is our unmovable, unshakable friend forever. When we wonder, feel alone, feel powerless, need hope and need help . . . We can trust Jesus!

A big THANK YOU goes out to all the volunteers that helped to make VBS at St. Peter's Church a huge success! Each and every one of you makes a difference in making sure that the kids have a GREAT week ~ without your support VBS just wouldn't be possible. A huge shout out to everyone who made monetary donations this year...thanks so much for your generosity!!!

Director– Michelle Bates

Games ~ Hannah Miller

Snacks – Nicole Hunsicker, Jason Gerber, Sharon Mateyak and
Brittany Wehr

Crafts– Michelle Bates, Diane Pruett, and Judy Gerber

Bible Adventures– Heather & Lyma Dunbar

Music– Michelle Bates

Decorating– Michelle & Cary Bates

Crew Leaders– Michael Kistler, Christine Miller, Cathy Wehr,
Allen Dunbar, Taylor Miller and Travis Miller

A grandfather picked up his 4-year-old grandson at church and asked, "Well, Joel, how did you like your first day at vacation bible school?"

"It was great!" the boy replied. "We heard some stories, did crafts, and sang songs. Then we went outside to play, and when we came back in God had juice and cookies waiting for us!"



St. Peter's Church, West Penn
TRUE NORTH VBS
Crews & *Leaders



OTTERS

*Christine Miller
Landon Nelson
Weston Wehr
Kaos McKlveen
James Beers
Gunner Lenhart
Benson Dinsmore
Rowan Hunsicker
Cole McHugh
Owen Bauer
Adeline Nemeth
Cameron Hunsicker
Ryan McHugh
Alayah Miller
Calvin Imbody
Talli Miller



EAGLES

*Cathy Wehr, Taylor & Travis Miller
Tripp Miller Jacob Potechko
Mason Imbody
Emma Lenhart
Liam Nelson
Kadie Foster
Kinsley Belanchik
Levi Nemeth
Tate Hunsicker
Carrah Miller
Cora Williams
Jenson Bauder
Waylon Wehr
Jett Pilla
Kolby Foster
Korrine Rex



BEARS

*Mike Kistler/Allen Dunbar

Brynley Kistler
Mason Hunsicker
Cole Hunsicker
Rowan Schnell
Case Pilla
Hannah Wargo



Oliver Williams
Kenton Foster
Jaxson Belanchik
Kylo Miller
Zayden Bauder

Gage Estep
Ethan Lusch
Gabe Laninger
Adalynn Kistler
Dawson Bauder



Say a Prayer for:

Recent

*Andrew Kowaleski
Audrey
Carl Gerber
Crystal Unger
Denise Angstadt
Grayson Christman
Holly Fox
Liz Johns
Nicolas Thomas
Steve Miller
Susan Brockel
Virginia Allesch
Wendy Kunkel*

Ongoing

*Austin Klein
Barry Reinert
Beth Pravozino
Bonnie Miller
Bruce Miller
Carissa Nelson
Carolyn Lantz
Cassie Wolfe*

*Clyde
Cody Wolfgang
Dale Peterson
Daniel Smith
Darlene Kunkel
Darryl Moyer
Debbie Mooney
DeRue Kistler
Donald Hank Williams
Edna Moyer
Eileen Moyer
Elsie Kiddell
Erin Coombe
Erlin Moyer
Gregory Slivka
Harry & Janie Conner
Hope Gramlich
Jackson Farrow
Janet Altenburg
John Tracy
Karen Nelson
Kenneth Breiner
Larry Chelsa
Leon Kunkel
Linda Garber
Lisa Moyer*

*Lynn Long
Maggie Wehr
Margarita Santnadelon
Margaret Kern
Mark Wolfe
Marsha Rodgers
Mary Lou McGowan
Nadine
Nancy Domanski
Parker Brode
Paul David
Renee Troutman
Ricky Everett
Rita Yarmell
Russel Miller
Russell Snyder
Sherry Goerner
Sue Hower
Teresa Fowler
Tracie & Scott Clews
Wayne Lazarus*



If you know of someone to be added or removed from the Prayer List, please contact Pastor Josh, Chris Miller or the church office.

O Lord, look down from heaven, and visit and relieve those who are ill. Look upon them with mercy; comfort them; give them a sure confidence in you; defend them from the attacks of the evil one; and keep them in perpetual peace and safety. Comfort and relieve your servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

July 12, 2026

Attendance: 74

Plate Offering: \$ 132.00

Total Current Offering: \$ 3,411.25

Building Maintenance Fund: \$ 372.00

Year-to-date Fuel: \$ 390.00

Year-to-date Elevator: \$ 210.00

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**Benevolence:**

**Total YTD: \$ 2,572.00**

**2026 combined benevolence goal is \$10,000.00**

**St. Peter's Church, West Penn**

**184 St. Peter's Road Tamaqua PA 18252      570-386-4388**

**Pastor Josh Nemeth 570-449-5993**

**Pastor's Office Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays  
from 10:00AM ~ 3:00 PM**

**Other times available by Appointment**

**Michael Hunsicker, Board President ~ 570-778-1972**

**Lori Hoppes, Vice President ~ 610-393-0901**

**Contact for our TLC Committee for Your Special Needs:**

**Please call Nancy Knadler at (570) 956-6851 , or email at [Lukie@ptd.net](mailto:Lukie@ptd.net)**

**Sexton: Lou Ann Algard 570-778-4063**

**Financial Secretary: Sharon Main**

**Church Office: Elaine Koons**

**Church Office Phone: (570) 386-4388**

**Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00am—1:00pm,  
Friday from 10:00am-2:00pm (Hours subject to change)**

**E-mail addresses: Pastor Josh: [pastor@stpwp.com](mailto:pastor@stpwp.com)**

**Church Office: [info@stpwp.com](mailto:info@stpwp.com)**

**Financial Secretary: [financials@stpwp.com](mailto:financials@stpwp.com)**

**Sunday School: [spwpsundayschool@gmail.com](mailto:spwpsundayschool@gmail.com)**

**Web Site Address: <https://www.stpeterschurchwestpenn.com>**

**Web Master email: [info@stpwp.com](mailto:info@stpwp.com)**

**Facebook: St Peter's Church of West Penn**

Worship will be held at the West Penn Park NEXT ***Sunday, July 26 at 10:00 AM.*** Following this service we will have a pot luck (covered dish) picnic lunch to which all are invited. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided.

# Fishers of Men

*Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men. Matt. 4:19*

HARRY D. CLARKE

HARRY D. CLARKE

1. I will make you fish - ers of men, Fish - ers of men,  
 2. Hear Christ call - ing, Come un - to Me, Come un - to Me,  
 fish - ers of men, I will make you fish - ers of men If you  
 Come un - to Me; Hear Christ call - ing, Come un - to Me, I will  
 fol - low Me; If you fol - low Me, If you fol - low Me,  
 give you rest; I will give you rest, I will give you rest;  
 I will make you fish - ers of men If you fol - low Me.  
 Hear Christ call - ing, Come un - to Me, I will give you rest.