



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

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

**Rev. Virginia M. Heimer, Pastor**

**For Pastoral Care or Emergency:**

**Pastor Heimer's Cell: 610-762-3840**

**Pastor Heimer will be in her office on:**

**Tuesdays and Wednesday from 10:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM**

**Thursdays from 9:00 AM ~ 1:00 PM**

**Friday ~ OFF; Saturday ~ SABBATH DAY**

**(Contact for emergencies only, please. Non-urgent communications, please email)**

**NOTE: Pastor Ginny will be away on Sunday, April 30th. Please contact Pastor Randy Lentz for any pastoral emergencies at 610-737-7824, or Denise Moyer, Board President at 484-69501887 for general concerns or non-urgent requests.**

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

**Please call Sue Conner at (570) 778-5367, or text her at [jrotc@ptd.net](mailto:jrotc@ptd.net).**

**Director of Music: Carol Steigerwalt**

**Sexton: Lou Ann Algard**

**Financial Secretary: Jacqueline McCandless**

**Church Office: Elaine Koons**

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

**Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10:00 AM~2:00 PM**

**Wednesday-10:00 AM~1:00 PM**

**E-mail addresses:**

**Pastor Heimer: [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>**

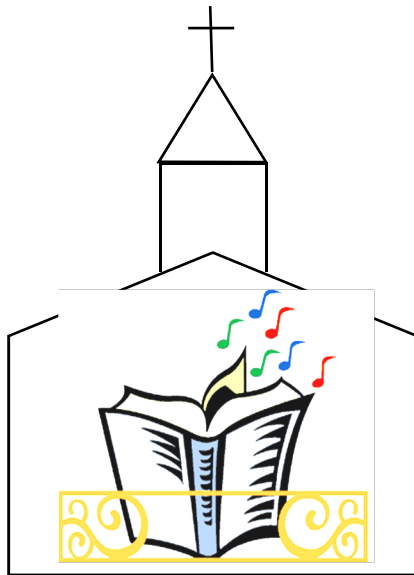
**Web Master email:**

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

**Facebook:**

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

# St. Peter's Church West Penn



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

## **St. Peter's Church Mission Statement**

*“St. Peter’s Church is committed to providing a family atmosphere for people of all ages. We are a people who sincerely care about each other and the community. We strive to be one people, bonded by Christ's love. We look to the future for the continued vitality that we share today. Through worship, preaching, fellowship, and servanthood, may we reach out to all people as a witness to the living God.”*



*“They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body.”*

*~Luke 24:2-3*

At Christmas, there are countless images and figurines of the Nativity of Jesus. Crosses are bountiful all year long—they hang on our walls, sit on our desks, they adorn us as jewelry. But at Easter, the empty tomb does not appear often on cards and gifts, nor does it grace the shelves in stores... colored eggs and bunnies take over! I've never seen an empty tomb necklace or earrings. It's almost non-existent, except in and around churches. I have numerous Nativity sets and figurines, many crosses at home and in my office at church but only one replica of the empty tomb, hand-made for me by a congregation member. (Pictured above) It is beautiful and meaningful, and I have been looking at it more often recently, wondering why this symbol doesn't get as much exposure as the other two. Why do I only have one? It has prompted me to want more of them.

These three symbols that are the foundation of the Christian faith represent the life of Jesus: his birth, his death, and his resurrection... all equally significant, yet the empty tomb kind of takes a backseat to the others. Is it because we don't understand it? We can connect with the other two on a human level, birth and death are a part of our lives...but resurrection?? Not so much!

None of us have experienced bodily resurrection...but it is our Christian hope, it is the reason that Jesus was raised to life—so that we too can be raised to life again when our earthly life is done. Do you believe this? It's not an easy concept to grasp because no one has come back to prove it.

Or...have they? If you have lost a loved one, you know what I mean. We feel and experience their presence, they visit us in the form of cardinals, a butterfly, a scent, a faint whisper in our ear, a fluttering in the heart and we know it is real—this is our glimpse of resurrection. It is mysterious, there is uncertainty, but we know it is real, and that it is a gift for all of us. Jesus was born, lived, and loved, suffered, and died on the cross so that we could truly experience the empty tomb of resurrection...not just his, but the empty tombs of our loved ones and our own as well!

Resurrection is real and true, and Jesus is asking us to embrace it! Look for a symbol of the empty tomb, draw one, construct one, keep it where you can see it all year long to remind you that you are so precious and loved by God that He wants to spend all of eternity with you!

*During this Easter season, may you feel the power of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and the hope that it gives to the world.*

*Blessings and Grace,  
Pastor Ginny*



# April 2nd ~ April 9th

Sunday, April 2nd *Passion/Palm Sunday, 9:00 a.m.*

Morning worship service with the distribution of Palms.

“Come and celebrate Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem!”



Thursday, April 6th *Maundy Thursday, 7:00 p.m.*

Model Seder Meal at Ben Salem UCC, Lehighton.



Friday, April 7th *Good Friday, 12:00– 3:00 p.m.*

St. Peter’s, church will be open from 12:00-3:00PM for all those who would like to spend time in prayer in the sanctuary (see article on the next page).



Friday, April 7th *Good Friday, 7:00 p.m.*

Good Friday at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Mahoning.

Sunday, April 17th *Easter Sunday*



6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service and 9:00 a.m. Service  
Celebration of Communion at both services.

“Celebrate new life in Christ as we worship with  
gratitude and praise the risen Lord!”

(Breakfast at 7:45)



### **Good Friday Afternoon Vigil**

*The Good Friday Evening service* this year will be a combined service for the sister churches; it will take place at St. John's Mahoning. Since we are not holding a service at St. Peter's, our church will be open from 12:00-3:00PM for all those who would like to spend time in prayer in the sanctuary. You are invited to light a candle, to bring your nail back and drop it at the foot of the cross. You may sit in the pews as long as you wish or use the kneeler; it will be your time to spend in silence and solitude with God to honor the sacredness of Good Friday—the day that Jesus gave his life for us.

### **THE LEGEND OF THE DOGWOOD**

There is a legend, that at the time of the Crucifixion the dogwood had been the size of the oak and other forest trees. So firm and strong was the tree that it was chosen as the timber for the cross. To be used thus for such a cruel purpose greatly distressed the tree, and Jesus, nailed upon it, sensed this, and in His gentle pity for all sorrow and suffering said to it: "Because of your regret and pity for My suffering, never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used as a cross. Henceforth it shall be slender and bent and twisted and its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross...Two long and two short petals and in the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail prints, brown with rust and stained with red, and in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns, and all who see it will remember."

~Anonymous

***“Every branch in me that beareth not fruit  
he taketh away: and every branch that  
beareth fruit, he purgeth it,  
that it may bring forth more fruit.”***

***John 15:2 King James Version***

## Upcoming Sunday School Events:

**Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Every Sunday  
(unless otherwise noted)**

⇒ 4/8 ~ **Easter Egg Hunt**

Grab your baskets! The Annual St. Peter's Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. SHARP. There will be egg hunt categories and prizes for all ages. Bring your camera to take photos with the Easter Bunny. Join us for an afternoon of fun!

⇒ 4/9— **HAPPY EASTER!**

⇒ 5/14— **Mother's Day**



Catch the excitement and join a Sunday School Class today. We have classes for all ages. Teachers and helpers are also always welcome. Anyone willing to be part of this great educational experience should see Samantha Kistler or Josh Hunsicker. Just remember, you can't ask "What would Jesus do?" until you know "What Jesus did and said!"

### **Don't Forget!!**

St. Peter's Annual Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt  
is scheduled for

**Saturday, April 8, 2023**

**1:00 PM SHARP!**



**Remember, it is important to keep us informed of any address or telephone changes, including cell phone or work phone numbers, and email addresses, if you wish. Please notify the church office by mail, email or telephone. By doing this, we can keep in touch with you and provide you with important information regarding the church.**

**Thank you in advance for your help!**

**The deadline for the May/June issue of the "Cornerstone" is Tuesday, April 11th. Going forward, there will be double issue months due to increase in mail costs.**

## St. Peter's Preschool 2023-2024 Registration

St. Peter's Preschool is now accepting registrations for returning preschool families and our church family. St. Peter's Preschool is accepting both three and four year olds who are potty trained and will turn the respective ages by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Your little one will be given the opportunity to prepare for kindergarten through exploring, playing, learning, and socializing with children from their community. St. Peter's Preschool 4 year old program runs Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9:00-11:30 am and our 3 year old program runs Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-11:30. We will also be offering our Afternoon Adventures program on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11:30-2pm.

If interested please call the church at 386-4388 and we will put you in touch with Mrs. Nametko OR email her: [Preschoolbarbara@gmail.com](mailto:Preschoolbarbara@gmail.com)

St. Peter's  
preschool



*Hello Spring*

By: Barbara Nametko

Spring has arrived and Preschool is very excited! We will start off our spring with designing and painting eggs, bunnies, and chicks. Preschool has been doing lots of singing and dancing to get ready for our bunny breakfasts with our parents on April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Easter will also bring an Easter egg hunt and our what is in the egg game! After Easter preschool will enjoy the spring with some nature walks and a visit from another community helper.

The letters V, W, and X will be our focus letters this month along with the colors of spring and the number 9.

Preschool will be holding our last fundraiser this month. We will be holding a take out dinner on April 26<sup>th</sup>, prepared by St. Peter's Kitchen Crew. Dinners will include, ham or chicken, filling with gravy, green beans, corn, applesauce and a dinner roll. Tickets are \$12.00 and need to be preordered by April 5<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in purchasing tickets, please contact Mrs. Nametko or Mrs. Houser. We will also be selling tickets after church.

Have a blessed and happy Easter! Thank you for your continued support.

V

W

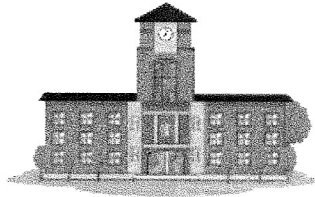
X

9



# ***ST. PETER'S DINNER THEATRE PRESENTS***

## **Cricket County Academy**



The hillbilly Taylor clan from Cricket County came into a great deal of money when their penny-pinching Uncle Zeke passed into the great beyond a couple of years back. The ironic thing is that Uncle Zeke left his dear county family a lot of money. So, in an attempt to finally get his country cousins a decent education, Elkin Taylor decides to enroll his kinfolk in Gold-Leaf Academy, a highbrow private school close to the city.

**SHOW TIMES: (includes dinner & show)**

**Friday & Saturday, May 5, & 6 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Friday (Meatloaf) Saturday (Ham)**

**Sunday, May 7 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Sunday (Ham)**

**Tickets: \$20.00 adults                      \$15.00 children 5-10**

**Ticket deadline April 16, 2023**

**For tickets call the church office (570) 386-4388,  
or Lori Hoppes at (570) 386-2440**

**The church is located on St. Peter's Road just off of route 443.**

**Proceeds benefit the Building Fund Roof Project**



## **PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE FOR OUR CHURCH NEWSLETTER**

The costs for mailing our church newsletter has increased due to the post office rate hikes. Our yearly permit has increased \$40.00 (from \$250/year to \$290/year.). The cost for mailing the newsletter monthly has risen \$60.00 (from \$120.00/month to \$180.00/month). The Church Board has determined to now do a bi-monthly newsletter to help save cost (a savings of \$1,080.00/year).

This change will take effect for the MAY/JUNE newsletter and will then continue as a 2-month publication.

In order for this transition to run smoothly, all information/articles must adhere to a strict deadline. We will still adhere to the deadline being the 2nd Tuesday of every other month (i.e. ~ May/June deadline is Tuesday, April 11th, July/August deadline is Tuesday, June 13th, etc.).

### **FUTURE BUS TRIPS**

#### **SAVANNAH-GOLDEN ISLES-BEAUFORT**

Three Belles of The South

7 Days - 6 Nights

September 10 - 16, 2023

\$910.00 Per Person ( Double Occupancy) \$1,220.00 ( Single)

#### **SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE, LANCASTER, PA**

Miracle of Christmas

Friday, November 3, 2023

\$160.00 Per Person Adult \$110.00 (Child 3-12)

#### **ALASKA**

Land/Cruise Tour

July 2 ~ 17, 2024

Presentation by a Princess Cruise Line Representative on

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 6:00 PM

at St. Peter's Church

For information and reservations contact:

Sue Conner @ 570-778-5367

## ST. PETER'S | FUNDRAISING FOR BUILDING EXPENSES

The current account balance is **\$5,780.00**

We appreciate the generosity of the members who direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars to the Building Fund account. \$644.00 was deposited in February 2023.

## W. A. S. P. News

*The next meeting of the Women's Association of St. Peter's will be on Tuesday, April 19th at 7:00 pm. Worship to be led by Marian Frantz. Refreshments will be served by Karen Diehl and Charlene Miller.*



*WASP usually meets in the fellowship hall the 3rd Tuesday of every month, unless a special event is planned. All women are invited to join them.*



## Joyous Noise Offering

**PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE TO MAKE CHRIST'S LOVE KNOWN**

*The Joyous Noise Offering last week totaled \$235.51 and was designated for Peaceful Knights Inc. founded in 2007. Peaceful Knights offers housing for homeless men and women in Carbon County.*

*As always, thank you for your support!*

*If you know of an organization or individual that could benefit from St. Peter's Joyous Noise Offering, please contact Nicole Hunsicker..*

*Life is a measure to be filled . . .*

*Not a cup to be drained.*

## **Say a Prayer for:**

*Loved Ones of  
Bob Kropp  
Loved Ones of  
William Wert  
Rev. Russ Campbell  
Ruth & Carl Miller  
Matt Brickler  
Leonard Miller  
Paul Drosnock  
Chester Jones  
Ralph Fisher  
George Belanchick  
Gary Steigerwalt  
Ronald Yuricheck  
Dan McMullen  
Dan Myers  
Bob Goerner  
Gladys Balliet  
Robert Coombe  
Althea Zehner  
Loretta Beers  
Teena Miller  
David Schoch  
Erin Coombe  
Dorothy Miller  
Sharon Tanczos  
Karen Lenhart  
Billy James  
Charlotte Solt  
Wyatt Davis  
Rita Yarnell  
Laurie Black  
Eric Breiner  
Darryl Moyer  
Betty Breiner  
Betty Clark  
Debbie Peipher  
Rose Bear*

*Sherry Seip  
Maggie Wehr  
Nancy Domanski  
Melinda Frey  
Linda Agosti  
Walter Szymanski  
Logan Pribila  
Bruce Wolf  
Lori Fairchild  
Franklin Mackes  
Thomas Miller  
Mark Abrachinsky  
Greg Blackall  
Lana Kuehner  
Lucas Milot  
Travis Flannigan  
Paul David  
Zayden Mabey  
Gary Zehner  
John Kowlewski  
Jessica Nehm  
Aiden Kreimendahl  
Mike & Bernice Delp  
Ben Fink  
Diane Middlecamp  
Gino Lorady  
Kim & Dave Carson  
Marion Kupres  
Louise Billman  
Tony Masor  
Sherry Walz  
Shari Yediny  
Darlene Kunkel  
Erla Biasi  
Carolyn Kunkle  
Aspen Murphy  
Jillian Datchko  
Pastor Nathan Kennedy*

*Russel Stull, Jr.  
Veronica Steigerwalt  
Donna Roderick  
Jaden Leiby  
Justin Klotz  
Gene McCormik  
Mike Rascho  
William Shirar  
Amy Meixsall  
Jackson Delebar  
Austin Klein  
Melissa Drake  
Lorna Hart  
Carson Barron  
Caroline Lantz  
Nancy Barkus*

## **Those on Our Visitation List:**

*Buddy Arner  
Arlene Breiner  
Robert Coombe  
Olga Faust  
Lynn Gerber  
Beverly Knoebel  
Dorothy Miller  
Larry Miller  
Velma Schaeffer  
Warren Steigerwalt  
June Williams  
Doris Wolfe*

## **Our Missionaries:**

*Michael, Kay, Mikayla,  
Leilani, & Michael Killar  
Maude, Valera, Zarina,  
Alexander, & Nicolas  
Motovilov*

**Our Military Overseas:**

*Deployed to Japan: John McGuire*

*Deployed to Africa: Jonathan & Michelle Liggitt*

**Our Military ~ Active Not Deployed:**

*Patrick Donohue, II*

*Mark Habel*

*Dustin Hoppes*

*LeRoy E. Kromer II*

*Timothy Kromer*

*Ezekiel Kuneck*

*Sean Kurtz*

*Antonio Lorenzo*

*Dominic Lorenzo*

*Amanda Miller*

*Lisa Miller*

*Austin Resch*

*Tyler Resch*

*Trevor Schilling*

*Andy Snyder*

*Chad Wehr*

*Trevor Shilling*

*Mark West*

*Scott West*

***St. Peter's Church Family,***

***Thank you! Your kindness mean so much. We thank you for all your calls, visits, cards, prayers, and concern for both of us during Dan's hospital and rehab stays. It made a big difference in his recuperation to have so many cared so much. We are blessed to have a wonderful church family.***

***In Christian Love,  
Dan & Bonnie Myers***



***Recently Baptized***

***Owen Marshall Bauer***

***Born Friday, December 9, 2022***

***Baptized Sunday, March 19, 2023***

***Owen is the son of Logan Bauer and Emily Tonkin***

***Godson of Maya Hutton and Nick Stains***

***Grandparents Jack & Shawn Tonkin and Jason & Virginia Bauer. Great-Grandparents Robert & Barbara Kershner***

## April Daily Lectionary Readings

**Saturday, April 1, 2023:** Psalm 31:9-16; Lamentations 3:55-66; Mark 10:32-34  
**Sunday, April 2, 2023:** Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew 21:1-11  
**Monday, April 3, 2023:** Psalm 36:5-11; Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11  
**Tuesday, April 4, 2023:** Psalm 71:1-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36  
**Wednesday, April 5, 2023:** Psalm 70 ; Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32  
**Thursday, April 6, 2023:** Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17  
**Friday, April 7, 2023:** Psalm 22 ; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42  
**Saturday, April 8, 2023:** Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8; Matthew 27:57-66  
**Sunday, April 9, 2023:** Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-18  
**Monday, April 10, 2023:** Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 14:10-31; Colossians 3:5-11  
**Tuesday, April 11, 2023:** Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 15:1-18; Colossians 3:12-17  
**Wednesday, April 12, 2023:** Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Joshua 3:1-17; Matthew 28:1-10  
**Thursday, April 13, 2023:** Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 2:8-15; Colossians 4:2-5  
**Friday, April 14, 2023:** Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 5:9-6:3; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
**Saturday, April 15, 2023:** Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 8:6-7; John 20:11-20  
**Sunday, April 16, 2023:** Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31  
**Monday, April 17, 2023:** Psalm 114; Judges 6:36-40; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20  
**Tuesday, April 18, 2023:** Psalm 114; Jonah 1:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:19-28  
**Wednesday, April 19, 2023:** Psalm 114; Jonah 2:1-10; Matthew 12:38-42  
**Thursday, April 20, 2023:** Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:1-5; 1 Peter 1:8b-12  
**Friday, April 21, 2023:** Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 26:1-4; 1 Peter 1:13-16  
**Saturday, April 22, 2023:** Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:6-9; Luke 14:12-14  
**Sunday, April 23, 2023:** Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35  
**Monday, April 24, 2023:** Psalm 134; Genesis 18:1-14; 1 Peter 1:23-25  
**Tuesday, April 25, 2023:** Psalm 134; Proverbs 8:32-9:6; 1 Peter 2:1-3  
**Wednesday, April 26, 2023:** Psalm 134; Exodus 24:1-11; John 21:1-14  
**Thursday, April 27, 2023:** Psalm 23; Exodus 2:15b-25; 1 Peter 2:9-12  
**Friday, April 28, 2023:** Psalm 23; Exodus 3:16-22, 4:18-20; 1 Peter 2:13-17  
**Saturday, April 29, 2023:** Psalm 23; Ezekiel 34:1-16; Luke 15:1-7  
**Sunday, April 30, 2023:** Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14



*Blessed are those who read and hear the Word of God and keep it.*

**St Peter's Church, West Penn  
184 St Peters Rd  
Tamaqua PA 18252**

**Dated Material Enclosed**

**Address service or forwarding  
service requested**

**Non-Profit Org**

**U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID**

**LEHIGHTON, PENNA  
18235**

**PERMIT NO. 154**

