



**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

**NOTE: Pastor Ginny will be away and unavailable from Monday, December 26th through Saturday, December 31st. Please contact Pastor Russ Campbell for any pastoral emergencies at 610-737-2634, or Denise Moyer, Board President, at 484-695-1887 for general concerns.**

**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 with afternoon visitations**

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

**(Contact for emergencies only, please. If you have a prayer request, please email)**

**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)**

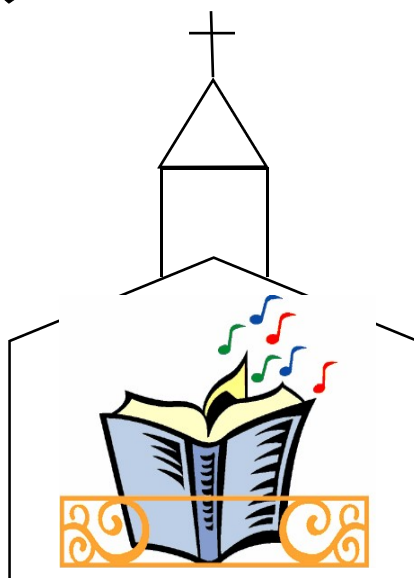
**Sunday School: [spwpsundayschool@gmail.com](mailto:spwpsundayschool@gmail.com)**

**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."*



*“For unto you is born this day in the city of David,  
a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”*

*~Luke 2:11 KJV*

And so, the race begins...the countdown to Christmas with all its bells and whistles and hectic days. In the midst of it all, I strongly encourage you to stop for a few minutes and watch “A Charlie Brown Christmas.” If you don’t have time, you can simply search on YouTube for Linus’ message of the meaning of Christmas—it is the message we need to hear.

Charlie Brown has the Christmas blues because he doesn’t truly understand what Christmas is all about. He is looking for meaning behind all the presents, cards, and decorations. It doesn’t seem like anyone has the answer for him until Lucy (for a nickel) offers her advice and tells him to get involved by giving him the role of director in the Christmas play. He only gets more stressed and frustrated until he is prompted to go and find “a great big shiny aluminum Christmas tree.”

We all know that he brings back a real tree, a sad little tree that earns him the laughter and criticism of his friends and he cries out: “Isn’t there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?” And that’s when Linus goes to the center of the stage and asks for the lights and proceeds to tell the greatest story ever told in his sweet Linus voice. After he is finished, he tells Charlie Brown: “And that’s what Christmas is all about. Go outside, look up at the stars and listen.”

What beautiful advice! How often during the Advent Season do we go outside, look up at the stars and listen to a message from God that tells us good tidings of great joy for all of us...that our Savior is born—born to us and desires to live in our hearts, our lives, and our world? Please don’t let the miraculous message of Christmas be buried underneath all the commercialism and busyness that seems to take over at this time of year.

Hold the message close to your heart that God is WITH us and this is the season to celebrate it. We are the people to which this Savior was born unto—we are the people He loves and cares for and that is the best Christmas present we could ever ask for or wish to receive.

*A Blessed and Merry Christmas to you!*

*Love, peace, hope and joy,*

*Pastor Ginny*

Many who have lost a loved one experience mixed emotions about the forthcoming holidays. Again this year we will have our Memorial Tree and Luminaria display at E. Franklin Griffiths Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc., 655 East Broad Street, Tamaqua, PA. This is a time to remember and honor family members. Luminaries will light our garden - you can pick one up to personalize for your beloved family members or we will make one for you. Please drop off an ornament of your choice by Friday December 2, 2022 to adorn our outdoor garden tree. Come and enjoy the display on Thursday December 8, 2022 after 5:30; take a walk in our garden or drive by. Open to all; you need not be affiliated with our funeral home to participate. You can reach us at 570-668-2550, 9:00-4:00 Monday- Friday to sign up.

## W.A.S.P. News



The next event sponsored by WASP is the Family Christmas Party scheduled on ***Sunday, December 4th*** at 12 Noon in the fellowship hall. The WASP women will have their "Secret Santa" gift exchange and a visit from Santa. Bring a covered dish to share and place settings for your family. Meat and beverages will be provided. A sign-up sheet is in the church parlor.

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

A special "Thank You" to Rick Knadler for taking the time assisting every year for our annual fire extinguisher inspection.



**Please don't forget to fill out and turn in your covenant forms by the end of the year. The letter and forms were available in your October newsletter, and are also available on the table in the church parlor.**

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**The church's financial books will be closed as of December 31, 2022. Any cash or checks received after that date will be included in the 2023 financial records.**





# Joyous Noise Offering

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE TO MAKE CHRIST'S LOVE KNOWN

*December's Joyous Noise Offering will be designated for Wyatt Davis who is the 3 year old son of Julie and Terry Davis. In September, Wyatt was mauled by a dog, and was rushed to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. They performed surgery that night. Wyatt will need more surgery in the future due to the severity of the injury on his face. The family has had to take him down to CHOP multiple times for follow up visits. Shortly after the incident, Wyatt was diagnosed autistic as well. The family could use help with medical bills and gas as they are traveling to Philadelphia often.*

On January 8th, the children of St. Peter's Sunday School will present their Christmas Program. Please plan to attend and support the youth of our Church.



***In case of inclement weather, please listen to WMGH/WLSH Radio Station, watch TV Channel 13 or the Channel 69 website ([www.wfmz.com](http://www.wfmz.com)) for any change in the time or cancellation of St. Peter's Church worship schedule.***

## Mark Your Calendars



### St. Peter's Fall Fest – September 8 and 9, 2023

The picnic committee met in September and October. The group agreed to switch things up a bit and sponsor a Fall Festival.

Planning has already begun but we are still in need of your suggestions, ideas and participation! We are asking each of the church organizations, including the pre-school and girl scouts, to host an event at the Fall Fest! Anyone can join the fun! There will be games, vendors and crafters, basket raffle, live music and, of course, delicious food! Many of you may be familiar with the musical trio, "The Hawks" ~ they will be the featured live entertainment on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. So, mark your calendars and support this event! Proceeds from the Fall Fest have already been designated for the roof project!

## ST. PETER'S BUILDING FUND / FUND RAISING ACCOUNT

A check in the amount of **\$47,000.00** was provided for the roof project.

### ***Recognitions:***

#### ⇒ From the SUNDAY SCHOOL:

The 2022 Pork & SAUERKRAUT dinner was a success! THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the dinner, baked and/or brought desserts, donated items for the dinner or just came out and enjoyed the meal. Thanks also to everyone who helped set up and clean up on Saturday. A big thanks to Miller Charm Farms for donating 75lbs of pork for the dinner. It was very much appreciated! Thanks also for the monetary donations we received, which helped with expenses. We sold 281 tickets total, and of that, 177 was 'eat in dinners' and 104 were take-outs. The total profit after donations and expenses was **\$3,507.51**, and **\$530.50** of that total was from the bake sale. The Pork & Sauerkraut dinner is the only fundraiser the Sunday School does, and the money raised goes for Sunday School materials, Bible school supplies and anything the Sunday School may need. Thanks once again for everyone who helped make this dinner a big success. Mark next year's date November 11, 2023, on your calendars!

#### ⇒ From the BASKET RAFFLE:

We would like to thank all who donated to the recent basket raffle. Whether you donated a basket or a gift card, or you purchased tickets it did not go unnoticed. We appreciate everyone's generosity. Because of you, together we raised \$2230.00 toward the roof project. Thank you!

Have you ever volunteered at the Shoebox Processing Center? It's an awesome opportunity to experience the next stage of the shoeboxes journey. Areas of service are available for all skill levels for anyone age 13 & older. Ginny Jensen is taking a group to the PC in Baltimore, **December 9th & 10th** and still has spaces available.

*If you're interested in joining the fun, call 570-460-7656 for more Information.*

Thank You to Jeff Bradford and Priority Portable Toilets and Services LLC (570-985-6400) for donating the use of a portable toilet for the roofing contractor for the duration





# ***Advent and Christmas Eve Service Schedule***

## ***Advent Services***

*We begin the season of Advent and the beginning of the new liturgical year on Sunday, November 27th and continue through the next three Sundays in December (4th, 11th and 18th).*

## ***Christmas Eve Services***

### ***2:00 p.m. Service***

*Let the Christ-light be kindled in your own heart as we participate in the candle-lighting ceremony and delight in the presentation of Special Music. Celebration of Holy Communion in the pews.*



### ***7:00 p.m. Service***

*Share in the delight of music joyfully made by our Cherub, Senior and Bell Choirs. Capture the wonder of Christmas as we join in the candle-lighting ceremony and celebrate Holy Communion in the pews.*



### ***10:30 p.m. Service***

*Share in the delight the presentation of Special Music and candle-lighting. Celebration of Holy Communion in the pews*

## **THE CHRISTMAS CHIMES**

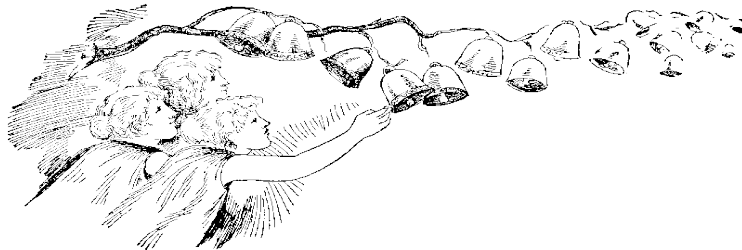
By Agnes Taylor Ketchum & Ida M. Jorgensen

*Sweetly through the night, comes the distant chime of bells,  
Hark, and hear the story that their joyous pealing tells;  
Like the song of angels, to us mortals given,  
Comes the silver music, sounding through the star-crowned Heav'n.*

*List! The happy music makes all nature sound,  
Hear the answering hill-tops in echo sweet resound;  
'Tis of One they sing, One of lowly birth,  
Who left a crown of glory, and came to sinful earth.*

*Now they tell the tale of shepherds from afar,  
Watching through the dark night to see the glittering star;  
Now they tell the story, of the wondrous love  
Of Him, who lived and suffered, the Great King above.*

*Chime, ye bells of Heav'n, o'er the sleeping earth,  
Let your tongues sing out the story of the heavenly birth;  
Chime throughout the long night, nor cease your joyful lay,  
Chime until the awaking of the glorious day.*



God became a man. Divinity arrived. Heaven opened herself and placed her most precious one in a human womb. The omnipotent, in one instant, became flesh and blood. The one who was larger than the universe became a microscopic embryo. And he who sustains the world with a word chose to be dependent upon the nourishment of a young girl. God had come near.

—Max Lucado, *God Came Near*

**St. Peter's Church,**

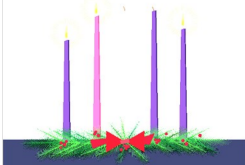
*I would like to thank all members of St. Peter's Church for their thoughts and prayers for me and my family in the loss of our beloved Linda Kunkel.*

*While I won't be attending, I would like to continue to donate to the success of St. Peter's ~ Linda would have liked it that way. Linda really loved worshipping with everyone there.*

*I would also like to thank the Cemetery Board and persons on the installation of our grave marker.*

**God Bless All!**

**Sincerely, George Kunkel**



### **Observing Advent**

Advent — the first season of the liturgical year and includes the four Sundays and weeks prior to December 25. Advent dates from the fourth century, when it lasted 40 days and included fasting and solemnity, much like Lent.

Advent is from Adventus, Latin for “coming,” referring to Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem and also his second coming. The traditional colors of Advent are purple for penitence or blue for hope.

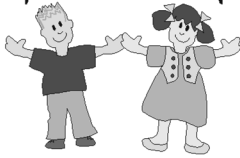
Observing Advent is a meaningful, adventurous way to prepare for Christmas. Buy or make an Advent wreath and use candles of your choice: four blue, four purple, or three blue or purple and one pink. If you have a fifth spot, add one white Christ candle. During meals or devotions, light only one candle the first week. Add another for each new week (the pink candle traditionally marks the third week), concluding with the white candle (if you have one) on Christmas. The increasing light reminds us we’re getting closer to celebrating Christ’s light coming into the world.

### **2023 FLOWER/BULLETIN CHART**

Please note that the 2023 chart is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Make sure you have the Sundays you want by filling in the date(s) now. Altar flower Sponsors: \$25.00 per altar arrangement, Piano Bowl: \$20.00 and \$20.00 for an extra arrangement placed on the organ. Contact Susan Hunsicker or the Church Office to reserve your Sunday date. Bulletins can also be sponsored for \$15.00.



St. Peter's  
preschool



## Christmas Joy By: Barbara Nametko



*Christmas is almost here, and Preschool is extremely excited! We cannot wait for the cold weather, but most of all we cannot wait for Santa! We will be preparing for Santa by learning some new Christmas songs and creating some awesome Christmas crafts. We will be focusing on the letters J, and K, along with the numbers, 4 and 5. We will also be talking about stars.*

*This year Preschool will be holding a Christmas lunch for our families. We will be singing some fun holiday songs for our families. After we sing, we will pose for some pictures then enjoy lunch with our families. Preschool is very excited for this special day!*

*We will be very busy this month making some special Christmas crafts. Stop by our hallway to check them out!*

*Thank you always for your continued support!*

*Preschool wishes everyone a  
Very Merry Christmas and  
A healthy and Happy New Year!*



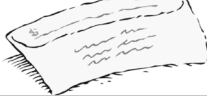
A

J

K



### **Offering Envelopes**



**2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES** will be available in the church parlor in December. And, if you can, while you're getting yours maybe you could deliver envelopes to those who might not be able to pick them up themselves ~ this helps us to keep down mailing costs. Thank you!

**The article/information deadline is always the 2nd Tuesday of the month.**

**Since we only had a December issue this month,  
and since it's a short month, a STRICT deadline for the January issue of  
the "Cornerstone" is Tuesday, December 13, 2022.**

## **Say a Prayer for:**

*Loved Ones of  
Carl Yacovelli*

*Loved Ones of  
Cindy Franklin*

*Loved Ones of  
Glenn Clark, Sr.*

*Loved ones of  
Melissa Miller*

*Loved Ones of  
Linda Dunbar*

*David Schoch*

*Erin Coombe*

*Alan Exner*

*Dorothy Miller*

*Sharon Tanczos*

*Karen Lenhart*

*Wesley Whiting*

*Kent Miller*

*Ricky Knadler*

*Billy James*

*Cathy Abrachinsky*

*Charlotte Solt*

*Makayla Scott*

*Wyatt Davis*

*Mary Lou Walck*

*Rita Yarnell*

*Dan Myers*

*Laurie Black*

*Eric Breiner*

*Melanie Santee*

*Matt Brickler*

*Darryl Moyer*

*Benjamin Harris*

*Bruce Miller*

*Betty Breiner*

*Betty Clark*

*Debbie Peipher*

*Rose Bear*

*Sherry Seip*

*Maggie Wehr*

*Nancy Domanski*

*Rosanne Abrachinsky*

*Melinda Frey*

*Linda Agosti*

*Walter Szymanski*

*Logan Pribila*

*Bruce Wolf*

*Lori Fairchild*

*Franklin Mackes*

*Lamar Gerber*

*Thomas Miller*

*Mark Abrachinsky*

*Greg Blackall*

*Lana Kuehner*

*Lucas Milot*

*Travis Flannigan*

*Paul David*

*Zayden Mabey*

*Gary Zehner*

*John Kowlewski*

*Matthew Fox*

*Jessica Nehm*

*Aiden Kreimendahl*

*Mike & Bernice Delp*

*Lisa Serfass*

*Ben Fink*

*Diane Middlecamp*

*Gino Lorady*

*Jamie Phelan*

*Kim & Dave Carson*

*Marion Kupres*

*Louise Billman*

*Tony Masor*

*Sherry Walz*

*Shari Yediny*

*Richard Kistler*

*Darlene Kunkel*

*Erla Biasi*

*Carolyn Kunkle*

*Aspen Murphy*

*Jillian Datchko*

*Pastor Nathan Kennedy*

*Russel Stull, Jr.*

*Veronica Steigerwalt*

*McCoy Rapa*

*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, Jr.*

*Arlene Breiner*

*Robert Coombe*

*Ola Faust*

*Lynn Gerber*

*Rev. David Knoebel*

*Gladys Krell*

*Larry Miller*

*Velma Schaeffer*

*Warren Steigerwalt*

*June Williams*

*Doris Wolfe*

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



**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 and Michelle Liggitt*

**Our Military Active Not Deployed:**

*Patrick Donahue, 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*

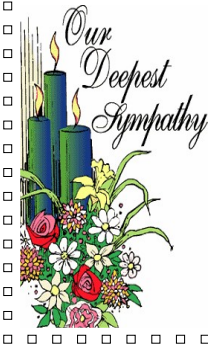
*Trevor Schilling*

*Andy Snyder*

*Chad Wehr*

*Mark West*

*Scott West*



Our sympathies go to the family and friends of

**Glenn Clark, Sr.**

who passed into eternal life on  
Wednesday, November 9, 2022

**Carl J. Yacovelli**

who passed into eternal life on  
Wednesday, November 15, 2022

Please remember these families in your prayers.

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

*Thank you for all your cards, prayers and support during Dave's hospitalization and home-going. Your love and kindness means so much to our family.*

*Your kind and thoughtful expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged.*

**LaRue and the Fink family.**





### **Daily Lectionary Readings for December 2022**

**Thursday, December 1, 2022:** Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 1:12-17, 21-26  
**Friday, December 2, 2022:** Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 30:19-26; Acts 13:16-25  
**Saturday, December 3, 2022:** Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 40:1-11; John 1:19-28  
**Sunday, December 4, 2022:** Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12  
**Monday, December 5, 2022:** Psalm 21; Isaiah 24:1-16a; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12  
**Tuesday, December 6, 2022:** Psalm 21; Isaiah 41:14-20; Romans 15:14-21  
**Wednesday, December 7, 2022:** Psalm 21; Genesis 15:1-18; Matthew 12:33-37  
**Thursday, December 8, 2022:** Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 1:6-18; 2 Peter 3:1-10  
**Friday, December 9, 2022:** Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 4:13-17; 2 Peter 3:11-18  
**Saturday, December 10, 2022:** Psalm 146:5-10; 1 Samuel 2:1-8; Luke 3:1-18  
**Sunday, December 11, 2022:** Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11  
**Monday, December 12, 2022:** Psalm 42; Isaiah 29:17-24; Acts 5:12-16  
**Tuesday, December 13, 2022:** Psalm 42; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Jude 1:17-25  
**Wednesday, December 14, 2022:** Psalm 42; Zechariah 8:1-17; Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34  
**Thursday, December 15, 2022:** Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:1-17; Galatians 3:23-29  
**Friday, December 16, 2022:** Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:18-22; Galatians 4:1-7  
**Saturday, December 17, 2022:** Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:23-29; John 3:31-36  
**Sunday, December 18, 2022:** Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25  
**Monday, December 19, 2022:** 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Genesis 17:15-22; Galatians 4:8-20  
**Tuesday, December 20, 2022:** 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Genesis 21:1-21; Galatians 4:21-5:1  
**Wednesday, December 21, 2022:** 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Genesis 37:2-11; Matthew 1:1-17  
**Thursday, December 22, 2022:** Luke 1:46b-55; Isaiah 33:17-22; Revelation 22:6-7, 18-20  
**Friday, December 23, 2022:** Luke 1:46b-55; 2 Samuel 7:18, 23-29; Galatians 3:6-14  
**Saturday, December 24 & 25, 2022:** Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)  
**Saturday, December 24 & 25, 2022:** Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20  
**Saturday, December 24 & 25, 2022:** Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12); John 1:1-14  
**Monday, December 26, 2022:** Psalm 148; Wisdom 4:7-15; Acts 7:59-8:8  
**Tuesday, December 27, 2022:** Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:22-31; 1 John 5:1-12  
**Wednesday, December 28, 2022:** Psalm 148; Isaiah 49:13-23; Matthew 18:1-14  
**Thursday, December 29, 2022:** Psalm 20; Jeremiah 31:15-22; Luke 19:41-44  
**Friday, December 30, 2022:** Psalm 20; Isaiah 26:1-9; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18  
**Saturday, December 31, 2022:** Psalm 20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19



*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**

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