



## **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 12:00 PM ~ 4:00 PM

Thursdays from 8:00 AM ~ 12:00 PM

Contact our "Called to Care" for Your Special Needs:

Jan Altenburg: 570-386-4631

Or TLC: Olga Faust: 570-386-5275

Director of Music: Carol Steigerwalt

Financial Secretary: Jacqueline McCandless

Church Office: Elaine Koons

Church Office Phone: (570) 386-4388

Church Office Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10:00 AM ~ 12:00 PM;

Thursday 12:00 PM ~ 2:00 PM; Friday 10:00 AM ~ 2:00 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)

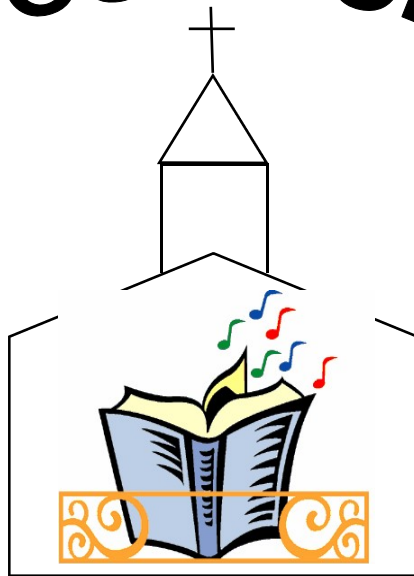
Sunday School: [spwpsundayschool@gmail.com](mailto:spwpsundayschool@gmail.com)

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."*

A Haiku for 2020  
*Eager for goodbyes  
To disruption of our lives  
But oh, how our hindsight shines!*



I know we are all anxious to bid goodbye and good riddance to 2020; we just want to put this crazy, messy year as far into the past as possible. But before we do so, maybe we should set aside all the terrible parts and reflect on the highlights and the lessons learned this year...there were many:

There was love and care all around as neighbors checked in on each other, people stepped up to support local businesses that were struggling, a new appreciation for health care workers and essential employees came about, family time increased, life slowed down and we spent more time at home, we celebrated Easter and Christmas with less hoopla and more sacredness, although many churches closed for in-person worship—more people watched church on TV and social media than ever before and wearing masks became an expression of loving your neighbor (as Jesus taught us to do) We realized we are all in this together and how powerless we really are about so many aspects of life.

Humanity was humbled in 2020 and we cannot leave any of the valuable lessons we have learned in the past—we must take them with us as we move forward into 2021 and into the future. The biggest lesson is that everything is in God's hands and that trust in God is crucial. Proverbs 3:5 tells us:

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and do not rely on your own understanding.*

If you did not turn more toward God this past year, what the heck are you waiting for? In times of difficulty when the world feels upside-down... that is the best time to turn to God so God can show us how only he can turn everything right side up again!

Let's have a Happy and Hopeful New Year in 2021...  
a year of faith and trust in God.

*Blessings,  
Pastor Ginny*

A story told by Katharine Hepburn's childhood; in her own words:

"Once when I was a teenager, my father and I were standing in line to buy tickets for the circus. Finally, there was only one other family between us and the ticket counter. This family made a big impression on me.

There were eight children, all probably under the age of 12. The way they were dressed, you could tell they didn't have a lot of money, but their clothes were neat and clean. The children were well-behaved, all of them standing in line, two-by-two behind their parents, holding hands. They were excitedly jabbering about the clowns, animals, and all the acts they would be seeing that night. By their excitement you could sense they had never been to the circus before. It would be a highlight of their lives.

The father and mother were at the head of the pack standing proud as could be. The mother was holding her husband's hand, looking up at him as if to say, "You're my knight in shining armor." He was smiling and enjoying seeing his family happy.

The ticket lady asked the man how many tickets he wanted? He proudly responded, "I'd like to buy eight children's tickets and two adult tickets, so I can take my family to the circus." The ticket lady stated the price.

The man's wife let go of his hand, her head dropped, the man's lip began to quiver. Then he leaned a little closer and asked, "How much did you say?" The ticket lady again stated the price.

The man didn't have enough money. How was he supposed to turn and tell his eight kids that he didn't have enough money to take them to the circus?

Seeing what was going on, my dad reached into his pocket, pulled out a \$20 bill, and then dropped it on the ground. (We were not wealthy in any sense of the word!) My father bent down, picked up the \$20 bill, tapped the man on the shoulder and said, "Excuse me, sir, this fell out of your pocket."

The man understood what was going on. He wasn't begging for a handout but certainly appreciated the help in a desperate, heartbreaking and embarrassing situation. He looked straight into my dad's eyes, took my dad's hand in both of his, squeezed tightly onto the \$20 bill, and with his lip quivering and a tear streaming down his cheek, he replied; "Thank you, thank you, sir. This really means a lot to me and my family."

My father and I went back to our car and drove home. The \$20 that my dad gave away is what we were going to buy our own tickets with.

Although we didn't get to see the circus that night, we both felt a joy inside us that was far greater than seeing the circus could ever provide. That day I learned the value to Give.

The Giver is bigger than the Receiver. If you want to be large, larger than life, learn to Give. Love has nothing to do with what you are expecting to get - only with what you are expecting to give - which is everything.

The importance of giving, blessing others can never be over emphasized because there's always joy in giving. Learn to make someone happy by acts of kindness and giving."

~ Katharine Hepburn

*"Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference."*

Kathy Calvin

## 2021 FLOWER/BULLETIN CHART

Please note that the 2021 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.

If you can't reserve your date(s) in person, call the church office and we will mark the date(s) for you.

Altar flower Sponsors: \$25.00 per altar arrangements, Piano/Organ Bowl: \$15.00 and \$20.00 for an extra arrangement. Contact Becky Zehner, Susan Hunsicker or the church office to reserve your Sunday date. Bulletins can also be sponsored for \$15.00.



### **Offering Envelopes**



**2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available ~ please contact the church office to arrange pickup. 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!

**ALL IN-PERSON CHURCH SERVICES, ACTIVITIES  
AND EVENTS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER  
NOTICE**

**THE CHURCH BOARD WILL MEET ON SUNDAY, JANUARY  
17TH AND WILL MAKE A DETERMINATION AS TO WHEN,  
AND IF, SERVICES CAN CONTINUE BASED ON THE  
CURRENT COVID GUIDELINES.**

**YOU CAN VIEW OUR VIRTUAL SERVICES ON OUR  
FACEBOOK PAGE AT  
'ST PETERS CHURCH OF WEST PENN'**

**OR**

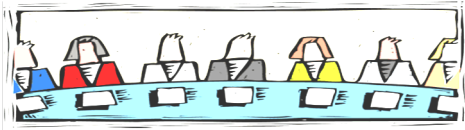
**CLICK ON THE FACEBOOK LINK AT  
'STPETERSCHURCHWESTPENN.COM'**

**DUE TO COVID-19 GUIDELINES  
MASKS & SOCIAL-DISTANCING ARE REQUIRED  
IF ENTERING THE BUILDING**

**ENTRANCES SHOULD NOT BE USED ON SUNDAYS  
FOR ANY REASON**

**EXCEPT BY THOSE INDIVIDUALS PREPARING FOR  
WORSHIP**

**The Church Board appreciates your prayers, support and patience  
as we continue to review the procedures and make adjustments as  
needed. As always, if you have any questions, concerns or  
suggestions regarding the guidelines, please do not hesitate to  
contact the Pastor or a Board member.**



# CHURCH BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

## From the meeting on December 20th ~~~

Pastor Ginny reported that she will be pre-recording services for Christmas Eve ~ December 24th, Christmas Day ~ December 25th communion and Sunday, December 27th.

The church is in need of volunteers to operate the sound and video equipment used to record the church services. Training will be provided. Please let any member of the Board if interested.

Thank you to all who supported the church gift card fundraiser. A profit of \$585.88 was realized.

The congregational meeting that was to take place on December 13th will need to be rescheduled at a later date. The Board will determine when the Annual Congregational Meeting can be held, however, organizations should please turn in their reports to the office as soon as possible so that the Annual Report can be completed.

Mike Hunsicker reported that the missing shingles on the main church roof have been repaired and the hornets nest that was under the eave on the South entrance has been removed. Also the light fixture on the shed was replaced (thanks to Warren for purchasing). The only cost to the church for this work was the lift rental for \$365.40. Thank you to Hunsicker Construction for the labor provided.

Mike and Susan Hunsicker donated and installed a new mailbox and post ~ thank you to both.

The Social Hall has a new 75" Smart TV which was purchased with money that was designated from the Richard Breiner Memorials. Again, thank you to the Hunsickers for installing the TV.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Sunday, January 17th at 10:30 AM.



*Meetings are held the third Sunday of every month unless otherwise noted.  
(Complete copies of the minutes may be obtained from the church office.)*

## **FUNDRAISING FOR OUR CHURCH**

**Current Account Balance \$66,375.00**

### **Recognition:**

⇒ Our ***Kitchen Krew*** held the annual Thanksgiving filling fund raiser. **\$1,268.00** was deposited into the Building Fund account during November and December 2020. Thank you to our kitchen helpers and everyone who purchased filling.

The *Krew* would like to thank everyone for their continued support and also a big thank you to the Kitchen Krew workers, they are some of the hardest workers!

*We are very grateful for your continued support of the church during this time of 'separation' from the church proper. We all still remain members of the St. Peter's Church Family. We ask that you continue to offer your prayers and patience throughout this pandemic.*

*Thank you to all members who have been continuing to support the church financially during this time. Donations can be mailed to the church or made online on our website through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly).*

## **THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER**

*is presented by Dave Hontz in loving memory of his beloved wife, Minna and in remembrance of her birthday that would have been on December 21st..*

**The article/information deadline is always the 2nd Tuesday of the month, with the exception of December & June. The deadline for the February issue of the "Cornerstone" is Tuesday, January 12, 2021.**



## Winter Fun

by Barbara Nametko



*Preschool is extremely excited to celebrate winter this month! Snow is the most magical thing about winter for preschool! We will not only be making name snowmen but creating our own paper snowmen and hopefully going outside to build a snowman!*

*We will be focusing on the letters M, N, O and P this month along with the colors, blue and white. Number 6 will be our number of the month along with the shape of a rectangle.*

*Along with the snow, playing Would You Rather is another highlight of Preschool these days! Each preschooler cannot wait to answer their crazy question! So, would you rather take a bath in a tub full of jello or chocolate pudding?*



*Dear St. Peter's Church Family,*

*We are all fine. Thank you for the food and gift cards. You people are angels. I want to thank Pastor Ginny for bringing it to us.*

*Can't wait to get back to church as soon as this Covid leaves.*

*We are grateful,  
Beverly and Alan Exner*



Dear St. Peter's,

May every special thing you do bring blessings in return to you.  
Thank you very much. Your gift was appreciated.



The Nelson Family.

**Say a Prayer for:**

Loved Ones of  
Raymond Steich

Loved Ones of  
Jerry Skelding

Loved Ones of  
Ken Hummel

Loved Ones of  
Tony Barazzuol

Ronald Yuricheck

Jessica Nehm

Chrissy Beshock

Tabitha Skelding

Joni Pavlock

Eileen Moyer

Terry Moyer

Vernon Moyer

Allison Steigerwalt

Patty Bouman

Daniel Troxell

Slate Altenberg

Aiden Kreimendahl

Wilbur Eberts

Cathy Abrachinsky

Dan Myers

Jeffrey Kistler, Sr.

Joe Mock

Rose Pitts

Suzie Brickler

Debbie Mooney

Pam Hunsicker

Mary Fritz

Willard Dunbar

Mike & Bernice Delp

Chester Snyder

Jean Snyder

Lori Ruch

Jim Beers

Barbara Margiotta

Carol Tynan

Kim Cope

Lisa Serfass

Robert Coombe

Carl Yacovelli

Danika Tworkowsky

Walter Szymanski

Ben Fink

Diane Middlecamp

Dale Roth

Gino Lorady

Bernie Matyascik

Jamie Phelan

Michael Hinkle

Kim & Dave Carson

Marion Kupres

Ronald Ziegler

Louise Billman

Tony Masor

Sherry Walz

Damian Birchess

Shari Yediny

Richard Kistler

Brian Abrachinsky

Renee Troutman

Darlene Kunkel

Erla Biasi

June Kalusky

Carolyn Kunkle

Aspen Murphy

Jillian Datchko

Pastor Nathan Kennedy

Russel Stull, Jr.

Veronica Steigerwalt

Sharon Roth

McCoy Rapa

Donna Roderick

Jaden Leiby

Justin Klotz

Gene McCormik

Mike Rascho

William Shirar

Amy Meixsall

Richard Frey

Carol Faust

JoAnn Pagonis

Paul David

Jo Kunkle

Jackson Delebar

Vicki Pratt

Lucas Millot

Austin Klein

Melissa Drake

Lorna Hart

Matt Brickler

Carson Barron

Caroline Lantz

Gerri Steigerwalt

Robert Miller

Doris Wolfe

Lenny Jones

Nancy Barkus

Howard Morana

**Those on Our  
Visitation List:**

Buddy Arner

Arlene Breiner

Lynn Gerber

Eldora Rex

Velma Schaeffer

June Williams

Doris Wolfe

**Our Missionaries:**

Michael, Kay, Mikayla,  
Leilani, & Michael Killar

Maude, Valera, Zarina,  
Alexander, & Nicolas

Motovilov

**Our Military Overseas:**

Deployed to

Afghanistan:

Michael Zeigenfuss

Deployed to Japan:

John McGuire

Deployed to Kuwait:

Issac Acuna

**Our Military  
Active Not Deployed:**

*Amber Gulick  
Patrick Donahue, II  
Mark Habel  
Dustin Hoppes  
LeRoy E. Kromer II  
Timothy Kromer  
Ezekiel Kuneck  
Sean Kurtz  
Jonathan Liggitt  
Michelle Liggitt  
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

**Kim E. Faust**

who passed into eternal life on  
November 23, 2020

**Diann L. Urban**

who passed into eternal life on  
November 24, 2020

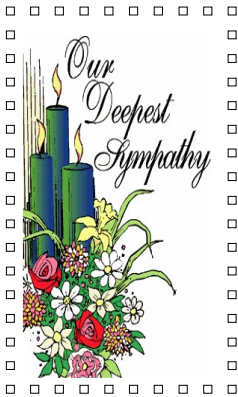
**Ken J. Hummel**

who passed into eternal life on  
December 14, 2020

**Raymond Steich**

who passed into eternal life on  
December 16, 2020

Please remember these families in your prayers.



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

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