



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 Wednesdays from 10:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM;

Thursdays from 9:00 AM ~ 1:00 PM

Friday ~ OFF; Saturday ~ SABBATH DAY

NOTE: Pastor Ginny will be on vacation from July 25th through July 29th.

Please contact Pastor Russ Campbell @ 610-737-2634 for any pastoral needs or contact Denise Moyer, Board President @ 484-695-1887 for general concerns.

Contact for our TLC Committee for Your Special Needs:

Please call Pastor Heimer OR the Church Office

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 ~ Friday 10:00 AM~2:00 PM

E-mail addresses:

Pastor Heimer: pastor@stpwp.com

Church Office: info@stpwp.com

Financial Secretary: financials@stpwp.com

Sunday School: spwpsundayschool@gmail.com

Web Site Address:

<https://www.stpeterschurchwestpenn.com>

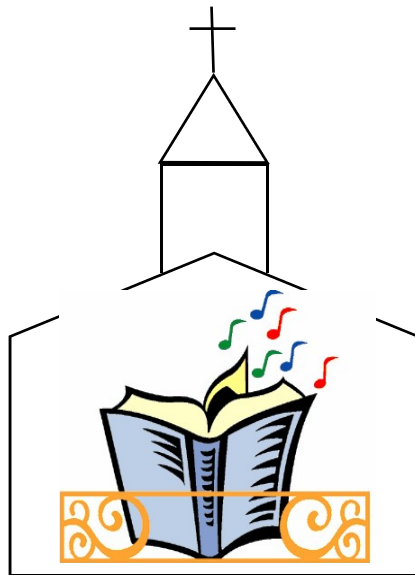
Web Master email:

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."

Dear Members:

There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, August 7th to discuss and vote on moving forward with the repair of the church roof(s). Over the past several years, there has been leakage, shingles blown off and general degradation of the roof structure. Before more damage (both inside and outside) occurs, the Board is recommending replacement of the following roof structures:

Main Sanctuary Roof

2005 Addition Roof (including the low slope area between the Sunday School and Sanctuary

Three porch roofs including the main entrance, roof to parking lot at bell tower and roof to the parking lot on the side street.

In 2021, the Board explored pricing and material for this endeavor. Several contractors were contacted but only one actually came out to “bid” the job. Since that time, we have been attempting to obtain other bids for the job with no success. Earlier this year, we renewed our efforts to obtain bids from several contractors. The original contractor that provided a bid in 2021 did not respond to our request. The only contractor that would bid the job was W.S. & Sons Construction. Justin (who has taken over for his dad who has retired) and his family have worked on many structures in our community – mostly barn roofs and commercial buildings. Given the current environment where it is difficult if not impossible to obtain multiple bids from multiple contractors, the Board feels that we should move forward with the bid from W.S. & Sons construction.

The recommendation from the contractor and the Board is to replace the roof with a standing seam metal roof. We believe that given the height and pitches of the most of our roofs, this is the best investment.

Currently, St. Peters has enough funds to coverage at least 75% of the cost of this project. We feel confident that our continued fundraising activities and capital contributions would allow the church to comfortably cover the cost of this project without the need to take a loan. With God’s guidance and your continued generosity, we feel that this is the time to take action before more structural damage occurs.

Please consider attending services on Sunday, August 7th as we discuss and vote on this important project. More detailed information will be available at that time and the Board will entertain and respond to all questions from the congregation. In the meantime, please give this matter your prayerful consideration and, if possible, consider contributing to this important project for St. Peter’s Church.

God’s Blessings Upon You,

St. Peter’s Church Board



“Jesus said: ‘I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.’”

~John 8:12

On my recent trip to New Paris, I traveled to western PA and had to drive through four tunnels: Lehigh, Blue Mountain, Tuscarora, and Kittatinny. I’m used to driving through the Lehigh Tunnel when I travel to Allentown, and I’m never thrilled about it but it’s the quickest way to get there. I wouldn’t call myself claustrophobic, but tunnels just make me uncomfortable and so driving through four of them (to and from my destination) was not my favorite part of the trip.

There is insight to be gained from every situation so I thought I might try to understand my uneasiness about these tunnels. I realized that when I’m driving along in the daylight and a tunnel is up ahead, I know that I am going to be plunged into a dark, enclosed place that seems to have no end. I tend to slow down because it feels unfamiliar; the other cars go whizzing by and I wonder how they are so unaffected by this sudden dark, tomb-like place. But I keep going, because...well, I certainly don’t want to cause an accident! I also know there is an end. I know this tunnel is taking me through a mountain that I can’t simply go around. I know I need to get to the other side and when I begin to see the opening up ahead and the light beginning to peek in, I start to relax and feel relief.

It is very similar, I believe, to the many challenges we face in life. We are driving along happy and content and then, suddenly, we become immersed in a darkness for which we are unprepared, even if there was a signpost that told us what was up ahead. We still get that feeling of uneasiness or even dread; we think there may not be an end and we start to slow down while everyone else is whizzing by us. Life is like that, but if we are believers in God, we know there is always a light at the end of all our tunnels and dark places. We know we can’t go around them and we must go through them. And...it’s okay to slow down and take it easy, it’s okay to feel uneasy and even a little scared—we are human, and we don’t necessarily like dark places. But with God, the dark places don’t last, there is always an end, there is always light up ahead.

Jesus pronounced that he was (and is) the light of the world. He also said that we are children of the light and that we are not to hide our light but share it with others. We don’t have to be afraid of the tunnels—there is light at the end. And

when we see someone slowing down, instead of whizzing by them in a great big hurry, maybe we could slow down to their speed, share our light, come alongside them—travel through the tunnel together and rejoice with them when we get to the other side and experience the light and life that Jesus promised!

*Enjoy the Light and Sunshine of Summer!
Many Blessings,
Pastor Ginny*

THE 2021-2022 ST. PETER'S CONFIRMATION CLASS



From left to right:
Tyler MacMillan, Kailee Thomas, Pastor Heimer, Morgan Myers and Abbey Rex

Confirmation Update

There will be no Confirmation Class this year due to a limited number of students. Confirmation will resume next year in the Fall of 2023. Look for information regarding registration for the Class of 2024 in next summer's newsletter or contact the church office or the pastor for any questions or concerns.

THANK YOU

Special thanks to everyone who coordinated; cooked, baked, and served; helped to setup and to clean up; organized games; participated donated to the basket raffle; and assisted with any behind the scene duties at our annual church picnic. Numerous individuals and groups rallied together to make this event a success. We are grateful to everyone.



Calling All Youth

All youth who are twelve and older are invited to a celebration of the 2022 Confirmation Class and combined youth event. Our goal is to bring back the St. Peter's Youth Group and we would love input from the youth regarding their interest in ideas about upcoming events. We will have a meeting, food, fellowship, fun and games at Miller's Grove on Sunday, July 17 starting at 12:00 noon. There will be a virtual sign-up about what to bring. Please contact the church office or Pastor Ginny for further information or questions.

Retirees Gathering is Back!

Beginning in the Fall 2022, the Retirees Group will begin meeting again on the second Wednesday of each month from 9-3 in the St. Peter's Social Hall. There will be food, fun, fellowship, and games. Please contact Kay Miller if you are interested in participating so she can plan for the meals. If you would like to assist in any way, please let Kay know. She can be reached at 570-778-0501.

Church Email Problem

The email account for the office and for the pastor has been experiencing a problem which automatically sends some email directly to the spam folder. If you send an email to the church or to the pastor and do not receive a response in a timely manner, please call the office to confirm it has been received. We apologize for any inconveniences this has caused and are working to resolve the issue.



Each Day Is A Gift From God

*View each day as a precious gift,
To you from God above.
To Him, each thoughtful deed you do,
Is an expression of your love.
And, as you travel down your path,
Know that He's at your side.
As a constant source of comfort,
And an understanding guide.*

*His love for you is infinite,
And his mercy never fails.
For you He was the sacrifice,
Hung on a cross by nails.
So, put Him first in all you do,
And your life will be blessed.
With the strength and confidence,
To do your very best!*

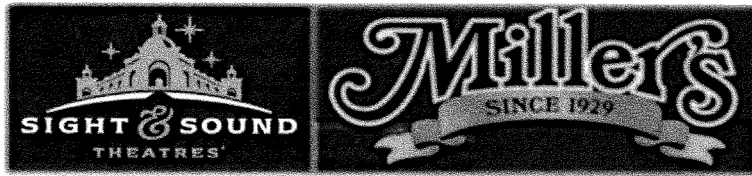
~author unknown

St. Peter's Church Vacation/Staycation Raffle

Drawing on Sunday August 7th immediately following Church service
(Approximately 10 AM)

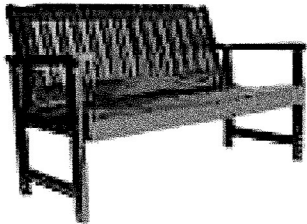
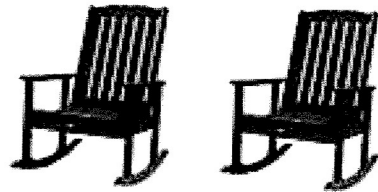
Tickets \$10 each

(Proceeds Benefit The Roof Project)



1st Prize: \$400 Sight & Sound Gift Certificate and \$100 Miller's Smorgasbord Gift Certificate (\$500 VALUE)

2nd Prize: 2 Highwood Black Lehigh Rocking Chairs (\$807 VALUE!!!)



**3rd Prize:
Highwood- Black Lehigh Garden Bench (4ft) (\$507 VALUE!!!)**

4th Prize: Carryon Suitcase with Accessories and \$100 VISA Gift Card. (OVER \$250 VALUE!!!)



**Door Prize: \$100 CASH
(Must be present to win Door Prize)**

SGC# 9132

See a Board Member or contact the Church Office for Tickets
(570) 386-4388



CLOTHING DRIVE

We will be accepting your gently-used items beginning August 19th ~ (a room/area to be determined). Pickup of our donation items will take place on Saturday, September 10th at 8:30am. by ClothingShoeDrive.com

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

All Plastic Bags that are of all colors, Paper & Brand Name bags "Kohls, JC Penny, Macy's etc.." of all sizes received directly from the home. Please DO NOT Re-bag. Adult & Children Clothing, Shoes, Handbags, Purses, Sandals, Sneakers, Boots, Jackets, Coats, Rain Gear, Leathers, Belts, Ties, Pants, Shirts, Sweaters, Vests, Blouses, Dresses, Skirts, Robes, Undergarments, Sheets, Pillowcases, Towels, Linens, Tablecloths, Hats, Scarfs, Gloves, Wallets, Jewelry, Watches, Uniforms, Jerseys, Backpacks, and New Diapers.

NOW ACCEPTING Household Items, Utensils, Hard & Soft Toys, Electronics, Bicycles & Small Bric-A-Brac Items.

WE DON'T ACCEPT:

Thrift Store Goods, Books, Games, Furniture, Flea Market, Yard Sales or Sorted merchandise that has been picked through or Separated which the better goods have been taken out as well as pillows & curtains. Any large items or other large Bric-A-Brac items that are of similar size. Any merchandise that has holes, rips, stains, mold or has an odor and is wet.

WHERE DO YOUR ITEMS GO?

The items collected from your fundraising programs go to regions in the USA as well as abroad to be sent to low income areas at economical prices and given a second chance. Inform your participants that they are helping your organization create awareness in the community, raising funds, cleaning out their homes, and giving back to low income areas! It's a quadruple win!

ST. PETER'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CLOSING PROGRAM

Mark Your Calendars Now - The Vacation Bible School Closing Worship Service will take place on Sunday, July 24th at 10:00 a.m. The service will be held at West Penn Park under the pavilion. Immediately following the Worship Service join us for fun, food and fellowship. Members of the Sunday School Board will be selling tickets during July and throughout VBS for this delicious meal prepared by The Kitchen Krew. The cost of each meal will be \$12.00 and will include ham, filling, a hot vegetable, coleslaw, applesauce and beverages. A kids meal of a hot dog, macaroni and cheese, applesauce and beverages will also be offered. All children attending VBS will be provided a complimentary meal. Additional children's meals are available for purchase at a cost of \$5.00. Please consider joining us and bringing a dessert to share.

Looking forward to a time of fellowship together.

Invite Your Friends and Neighbors.



FOOD DRIVE

We are participating in a Food Drive in order to donate to the Free Church Food Pantry serving the Mahoning & West Penn communities to be held during the months of July & August. A table will be set up in the church parlor for your donations ~ thank you!

Bell Choir Rehearsals will begin again in the Fall, sometime after Labor Day. Anyone having an interest in learning more about, or joining the Bell Choir is welcome to come and join us! Let Carol Steigerwalt know of your interest by calling her at 570-386-4844 or email her at harmony@ptd.net ~ we have lot's of fun!



The deadline for the September issue of the "Cornerstone" is Tuesday, August 9th.



Joyous Noise

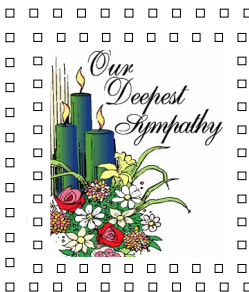
PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE TO MAKE CHRIST'S LOVE

June's Joyous Noise Offering totaled \$127.00 and was for Turn To Us Inc. The mission of Turn To Us is to advocate for individuals and their families who are living with autism or cancer by offering personalized assistance and connection to available resources in a compassionate and hopeful environment. We feel no one deserves to fall through the cracks. When someone is overwhelmed with a diagnosis and thinks, "I don't know where to turn for help," we want them to turn to us.

As part of Treasured VBS Program, July's Joyous Noise Offering we will be for the VBS mission. This year it is for mosquito netting to help with malaria. This Joyous Noise Offering will be combined with those of this summer's VBS collections. Thank you for your support!

August's offering will be designated for Deborah Ahner. Deborah Ahner was hospitalized and admitted to the ICU at St. Luke's Lehighton Campus. She is dealing with multiple sensitive health conditions, including but not limited to complications resulting from pneumonia and a ruptured hernia. Unfortunately, Deb does not have health insurance. Deb's medical status has left all financial burdens on her daughter, Marlana, who just graduated from high school. The money collected will help cover some medical and household expenses.

Checks should be made payable to St. Peter's Sunday School and may be mailed to the church office. If you know of an organization or any individual that could benefit from St. Peter's Joyous Noise Offering, please contact Samantha Kistler or Nicole Hunsicker.



Our sympathies go to the family and friends of

Kyle B. Gerber

who passed into eternal life on June 6, 2022

Please remember this family in your prayers.

Say a Prayer for:

Loved Ones of

Kyle Gerber

Eric Breiner

Margie Schock

Matt Brickler

Darryl Moyer

Pamela & Susan

Hunsicker (Lehighton)

Elmer Henry

Dan Myers

Wendy Kunkel

Benjamin Harris

Bruce Miller

Tiven Steigerwalt

Alexis Scott

Makayla Scott

Betty Breiner

Betty Clark

Chuck Oliver

Debbie Peipher

Carol Steigerwalt

Dan Algard

David Fink

Glenn Rarick

Rose Bear

Tory Graver

Pete Fisher

Sherry Seip

Maggie Wehr

Robert Kistler, Jr.

Dave Warner

Nancy Domanski

Rosanne Abrachinsky

Melinda Frey

Linda Agosti

Walter Szymanski

Logan Pribila

Bruce Wolf

Lori Fairchild

Franklin Mackes

Slayton Altenburg

Lamar Gerber

Thomas Miller

Carol Barron

Keith Bitler

MaryAnne Mitrisin

Chris Conway

Mark Abrachinsky

Greg Blackall

Lana Kuehner

Amanda Donohue

Lucas Milot

Travis Flannigan

Paul David

Zayden Mabey

Gary Zehner

John Kowlewski

Matthew Fox

Jessica Nehm

Allison Steigerwalt

Aiden Kreimendahl

Mike & Bernice Delp

Carol Tynan

Lisa Serfass

Danika Tworkowsky

Ben Fink

Diane Middlecamp

Gino Lorady

Bernie Matyascik

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

JoAnn Pagonis

Jo Kunkle

Jackson Delebar

Vicki Pratt

Austin Klein

Melissa Drake

Lorna Hart

Carson Barron

Caroline Lantz

Nancy Barkus

Howard Morana

Those on our Visitation List:

Buddy Arner

Arlene Breiner

Edith Coombe

Robert Coombe

Olga Faust

Lynn Gerber

Rev, David Knoebel

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

Upcoming Sunday School Events:

Sunday School will begin again in September at
10:15 a.m., Every Sunday

HAPPY SUMMER!

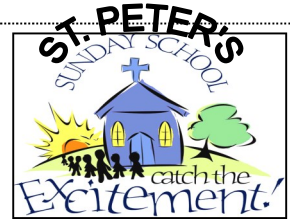
Adult Sunday School ~ Every Sunday at 10:15am.

⇒ 7/18-22: Vacation Bible School; 6:00-8:30pm.

⇒ 7/24: VBS Closing Program; 10:00am at West Penn Park.

Catch the excitement and join a Sunday School Class in September. 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!"



St. Peter's Preschool 2022-2023 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 1st. 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



**Thanks
to Our
Volunteers!**

Many thanks to our Newsletter assembly crew: Becky Zehner, Marian Frantz, Pauline Frey, and Dave Hontz.

Their dedication to helping is much appreciated! If you'd like to help with this project, please let the office know ~ we'd love to have you join us!



ST. PETER'S, WEST PENN VBS REGISTRATION FORM

(One per child)

**MONDAY, JULY 18th ~ FRIDAY, JULY 22nd
from 6:00 ~ 8:30 PM**

**CLOSING PROGRAM ON SUNDAY, JULY 25th
10:00 AM AT WEST PENN PARK**

(For more information, contact Michelle Bates at 570-573-1134)

Child's T-Shirt Size: _____

Child's name: _____ Child's gender: _____

Child's age: _____ Date of birth: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

Name of parent(s): _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home telephone: (____) _____

Parent/caregiver's cellphone: (____) _____

Home email address: _____

Home church: _____

Allergies, medical conditions, or special needs: _____



In case of emergency, contact: _____

Phone: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Crew number or name (for church use only): _____



Couples Retreat

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 22, 2022 (9-4) and contact Pastor Ginny if you would like to participate. Couples from St. Peters are invited as well as any friends, relatives, or guests. You can expect the day to be filled with opportunities to learn and grow in our relationships, sharing of stories and experiences, worship, prayer and, of course, lots of fun!

THE CHURCH IS NOT A BUILDING (1 Timothy 5)

When the word “church” comes up in conversation, the first thing we think of is a building. We have this mindset that church is a place we go to on Sundays. As we get our family dressed, fight through traffic and get a good seat, it’s easy to lose sight of the fact that we aren’t just going to church; we are the church.

In 1 Timothy 5, Paul describes the church as people dedicated to doing whatever it takes to reach out and help others. We have a responsibility to serve and help others in need as the church. Caring for each other as well as those outside of the church is the quickest way to see Jesus change lives. Too often, we see a need and wait for the pastor or someone on staff to take responsibility. But that’s not the way church works.

Each of us has been given skills, abilities and opportunities to serve. In Timothy’s church, for example, the women ran a widows ministry (1 Timothy 5:16), and elders directed church affairs while others were devoted just to teaching and preaching (1 Timothy 5:17).

In the Bible, church is always a reference to people, not a place. The church is a body of believers that live out the Gospel in their words and actions. The church is at its best when people inside the building take Jesus’ message outside the building and serve those they meet.

~from 1 Timothy: An 11-Day Devotional

Remember the past with fondness; Look to the future with eagerness; Live each moment to the fullest.

~Unknown

Daily Lectionary Readings for July 2022

Friday, July 1, 2022:Psalm 30; 2 Kings 4:18-31; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

Saturday, July 2, 2022:Psalm 30; 2 Kings 4:32-37; Luke 9:1-6

Sunday, July 3, 2022: Psalm 66:1-9 ;Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16 ;Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Monday, July 4, 2022:Psalm 6; 2 Kings 5:15-19a; Acts 19:21-27

Tuesday, July 5, 2022:Psalm 6; 2 Kings 5:19b-27; Acts 19:28-41

Wednesday, July 6, 2022:Psalm 6; 2 Kings 6:1-7; Luke 10:13-16

Thursday, July 7, 2022:Psalm 82; Amos 1:1-2:3; James 2:14-26

Friday, July 8, 2022:Psalm 82; Amos 2:4-11; Acts 7:9-16

Saturday, July 9, 2022:Psalm 82; Amos 2:12-3:8; John 3:16-21

Sunday, July 10, 2022: Psalm 25:1-10 ;Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

Monday, July 11, 2022:Psalm 7; Amos 3:9-4:5; James 2:1-7

Tuesday, July 12, 2022:Psalm 7; Amos 4:6-13; 1 John 3:11-17

Wednesday, July 13, 2022:Psalm 7; Amos 5:1-9; Matthew 25:31-46

Thursday, July 14, 2022:Psalm 52; Amos 5:10-17; Hebrews 5:1-6

Friday, July 15, 2022:Psalm 52; Amos 5:18-27; Ephesians 3:14-21

Saturday, July 16, 2022:Psalm 52; Amos 6:1-14; Luke 8:4-10

Sunday, July 17, 2022: Psalm 15 ;Colossians 1:15-28 ;Luke 10:38-42

Monday, July 18, 2022:Psalm 119:17-32; Amos 7:1-6; Colossians 1:27-2:7

Tuesday, July 19, 2022:Psalm 119:17-32; Amos 8:13-9:4; 1 John 2:1-6

Wednesday, July 20, 2022:Psalm 119:17-32; Amos 9:5-15; John 6:41-51

Thursday, July 21, 2022:Psalm 85; Hosea 4:1-19; Acts 1:15-20

Friday, July 22, 2022:Psalm 85; Hosea 5:1-15; Acts 2:22-36

Saturday, July 23, 2022:Psalm 85; Hosea 1:11-2:15; Luke 8:22-25

Sunday, July 24, 2022: Psalm 138 ; Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19) ;Luke 11:1-13

Monday, July 25, 2022:Psalm 44; Hosea 2:14-3:5; Colossians 2:16-3:1

Tuesday, July 26, 2022:Psalm 44; Hosea 6:1-10; Romans 9:30-10:4

Wednesday, July 27, 2022:Psalm 44; Hosea 6:11-7:16; Matthew 5:43-48

Thursday, July 28, 2022:Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Hosea 8:1-14; Romans 11:33-36

Friday, July 29, 2022:Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Hosea 9:1-17; Ephesians 4:17-24

Saturday, July 30, 2022:Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Hosea 10:1-15; Mark 10:17-22

Sunday, July 31, 2022: Psalm 49:1-12, Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21



*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**

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