



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

Sexton: LouAnn Algard

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






Church Office: info@stpwp.com

Financial Secretary: financials@stpwp.com

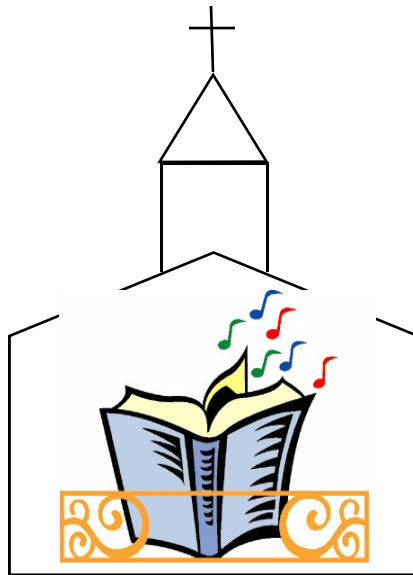
Sunday School: spwpsundayschool@gmail.com

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

Web Master email: info@stpwp.com

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1	2	3	4	5	6 
7 Third Sunday in Lent <u>9:00am-Morning Worship Service</u> CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION 10:15am-Sunday School	8	9 	10	11	12	13 Don't forget to "Spring Ahead" & set your clocks
14 Fourth Sunday in Lent <u>9:00am-Morning Worship Service</u> 10:15am-Sunday School	15	16	17 	18	19	20 
21 Fifth Sunday in Lent <u>9:00am-Morning Worship Service</u> 10:15am-Sunday School 11:00am ~ Church Board (filling orders due)	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Palm Sunday <u>9:00am-Morning Worship Service</u> 10:15am-Sunday School	29	30	31			

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."



Can you give Jesus forty days? Lent is a forty-day journey to prepare us for Holy Week, the last week of Jesus' life here on earth. Good Friday is a sacred, somber day where we recall the suffering Jesus endured for us and then on Easter Sunday, we celebrate his resurrection from the tomb. The time leading up to Easter is an important time that shouldn't be ignored; it's an invitation for us to walk with Jesus for forty days and give back to him for all that he gave for us and continues to give.

Can you give him some soul-searching, prayer, fasting and charity toward others? These practices help us to be closer to God and to one another; they help us to improve ourselves and our lives, so why wouldn't we put in some effort?

Soul-searching, self-reflection or self-examination...whatever you want to call it, is simply taking an honest look at yourself, admitting you've got some work to do and then committing to doing it.

Praying...we could all use more prayer in our lives. Prayer isn't simply using the right words to talk to God—it's quieting your mind and heart to LISTEN to God and giving God your time and attention. God wants to have a relationship with you!

Fasting is "giving up" something to make room for something else. If you give up candy or your coffee at the drive-thru (take some from home instead) you can use the money you saved to give to a charity. If you give up some screen time on your phone, you can use that time to pray or to read the bible.

Give to those in need—find a charity to which you feel connected and give. If you know of someone struggling financially, leave a gift card at their door anonymously or take them some groceries...so many people are struggling right now.

Lent is a time to recall Jesus' life and death so that we can truly celebrate his resurrection on Easter Sunday. Give him these forty days and may they inspire you to give him every day of your life!

*May your Lenten journey be fruitful!
Peace and Blessings
Pastor Ginny*

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

“Truly I tell you that whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it for me.” (Matthew 25:40)



As the Body of Christ, we are called to help those in need. There have always been people in need but since Covid19 turned our world upside down, it has created even more need. In response to this need, we are starting up a new committee whose goal and mission will be to develop ideas and projects that will minister to the needs of others both globally and locally.

The first project was inspired by Rev. Bruce Potteiger who spoke to us about an organization he represents called “Food for the Poor.” There are small boxes at church that you are invited to take home for Lent and drop in donations at your own determination. Once all the boxes have been returned, the committee will meet to decide on how we will help a poor family; most of these families that are assisted live in Latin America and the Caribbean. We can purchase livestock, farming equipment, educational supplies, housing, wells, and water pumps. We can make a huge difference for a family living in poverty; we can help them have a better life and we can fulfill the call of Jesus as we “do for him as we are doing for others.”

If you are interested in reaching out to help those in need and you would like to be a part of this group, please contact Pastor Ginny. A meeting will be set up in the near future: date and time TBA.



Lenten Offering Envelopes

The season of Lent, a time to walk with Jesus, seeing him as he uses his healing power on the suffering and helping the less fortunate. Your Lenten offerings helps us to support our ELCA and UCC missions.

Lenten envelopes can be found at each entrance to the sanctuary or you can mail your special Lenten offerings to the church office or place the envelopes in the offering plate on a Sunday morning.

No problem is too great to place in God's hands.

FUND RAISING

Kitchen Krew:

Anyone who would like to be a part of the Kitchen Krew and help can contact Karen Diehl 570-386-5472 or email her at karend@ptd.net. We do need help with this fundraiser!

The Kitchen Krew is planning to make filling for Easter. **Filling** orders are due **Sunday, March 21st** with pickup on **Friday, April 2nd** from 11:00 AM ~ 2:00 PM. at the South entrance. Filling can be purchased by the quart for \$6/qt.

As always...**thank you for your support!**

Order forms are available at both entrances to the sanctuary and can be placed in the baskets at either entrance to the sanctuary. If you call 570-386-5472 with any orders and leave a message, Karen will return the call to confirm that we received it. Or email her at karend@ptd.net.

EASTER FLOWERS

At the time of printing, orders for Easter flowers was still not finalized. Please listen for announcements in church, on our Facebook page and also on our website. Updates will be posted as soon as possible.

The deadline for the April issue of the “Cornerstone” is Tuesday, March 9th.
Deadline for articles/information is always the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

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

“Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone.”

~Zechariah 10: 1



March 28th through April 4th

Sunday, March 28th *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 1st *Maundy Thursday, 7:30 p.m.*



Experience the Last Supper with Jesus when he gave the new commandment: “Love one another as I have loved you”

Friday, April 2nd *Good Friday, 7:30 p.m.*
Good Friday Tenebrae Service:

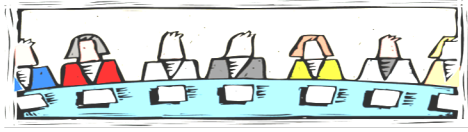


Sunday, April 4th
Easter Sunday

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!”

(NO Breakfast)



CHURCH BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From Board Meeting of February 21st- -

Pastor Ginny announced that the new purple paraments purchased with the Hoppes/Fritz Memorial Fund monies will be dedicated sometime in March.

Pastor Ginny also advised that she, along with the pastors from our sister churches, will be offering virtual mid-week Lenten services that can be viewed on our Facebook page.

Preschool provided the Board with their Covid-19 Mitigation plan detailing efforts being taken to ensure the safe operation of the school.

It was decided the Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 11th following worship. Please have all organizational reports turned in to the office as soon as possible.

Election of Board officers was held for 2021. The following nominations were made and were approved by the Board: President ~ Denise Moyer; Vice-President ~ Mike Hunsicker; Secretary ~ Kim Kistler; and Treasurer ~ Michael Kistler.

The next meeting of the Church Board will be held on Sunday, March 21st at 11:00 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.)*

**Thank
You!**

Thank you to Josh Hunsicker, Safety Committee Chairperson, and Mitch Miller who provided plexiglass shields for the sanctuary at no cost to the church.

Thank you to Mike Hunsicker and Burdell Snyder for their efforts during this past Winter with snow removal which was at no cost to the church.



FROM THE CHURCH BOARD

It's been warm and then cold and then warm and then cold.....
BUT, it's still "Heating season!"

And, we utilize electricity all year long. Would you please consider making a contribution, in addition to your regular offering, to help us defray the cost of heating fuel and electricity.

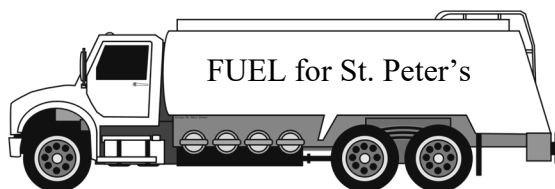
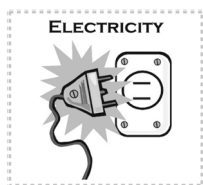
In 2019 it cost approximately **\$12,000.00** for heat and electricity.

We also have a monthly elevator maintenance bill of **\$220.00**. Elevator maintenance envelopes are available on the table in the church parlor. We hope you can also give this some consideration.

Please use the enclosed envelope to help defray the cost of our energy bill, or **BETTER** yet, bring the envelope with you when you worship with us on Sunday.

Thank you for your contribution and we'll see you in church!

St Peter's Church Board



Just another reminder: Please help us with building security issues ~ whenever you enter the building, please inform the office staff either in person or by phone.

If no one is available in the office and pre-school is in session, please notify the pre-school staff.

Also, please make sure the doors are closed and latched when entering and leaving the building. Thank you.

DON'T FORGET TO SPRING AHEAD!

Daylight Savings Time begins on **March 14th** at 2:00 AM.
Remember to set your clocks ahead 1 hour.

The first day of Spring is March 20th.





Welsome Spring!

By Barbara Nametko



Preschool is extremely excited to welcome spring! We are ready for the sunshine and warmer weather. Even our weather frog is tired of the cold weather! Preschool will welcome in spring with some cute crafts and a special spring snack! Along with getting ready for spring we will be focusing on the letters, R, S, T and U. Our focus shape will be the diamond along with the colors red, yellow, green and the number 8. Make sure to peek at our room to see some masterpieces!

March is sure to bring some mischief from that tricky leprechaun! Preschool will be prepared with lots of shamrocks, green crafts, and lucky charms. We will even be going on a hunt for that leprechaun. Maybe we will find some of his chocolate gold coins!

March will begin enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year. Preschool will also be offering our Afternoon Adventures program for our four year old class. This program runs after preschool until 2pm. Please contact Mrs. Nametko for more information at Preschoolbarbara@gmail.com

R

S

T

U

8

St. Peter's Preschool 2021-2022 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 put will you in touch with Mrs. Nametko OR email her: Preschoolbarbara@gmail.com

There's Always Spring in God's Love ~ by Deborah Ann Belka

*There are many blessings,
that each new Spring brings
you can see it bloom about
and hear the song it sings.*

*With winters bleakness over,
and brighter days ahead
comes promises of new life
Springtime loves to spread.*



*As God unfolds the flowers,
and their buds begin to show
He gives to us the assurance
grace in our hearts will grow.*

*He sends us the robin's song,
with the promise to provide
a shelter under His mighty wing
where in His love we can abide.*

*He melts the snowy covers,
and sends the refreshing rain
sprinkling us with His mercies
to heal winter's ache and pain.*



*God's given to all His Son,
to shed upon us a new light
and the real blessing of
Spring . . .
is keeping Jesus in our sight!*

Song of Solomon 2: 11-12

King James Version

***"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;
The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;"***

IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES ARE NOW BEING HELD EACH SUNDAY AT 9:00 AM.

MASKS (WORN CORRECTLY—COVERING BOTH MOUTH AND NOSE) ARE REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES WHILE IN THE CHURCH BUILDING.

WE ARE ASKING THAT MEMBERS NOT GATHER IN THE BUILDING FOLLOWING WORSHIP.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND IN PERSON YOU CAN VIEW OUR VIRTUAL SERVICES ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AT ‘ST PETERS CHURCH OF WEST PENN’

INDOOR WORSHIP GUIDELINES for COVID19

For the health and safety of everyone, social distancing will be practiced in the sanctuary. Seating will be available in every other pew. Family members may sit together, but please allow six feet between other members and other families. Ushers will be available to assist with seating. Overflow seating will be available in the social hall, if needed.

Masks (worn correctly—covering both mouth and nose) are required at all times while in the church building. There will be no congregational singing at this time, but special music will continue to be offered. Offering envelopes may be placed in the plates at the entrances to the sanctuary. Holy Communion will continue to be celebrated on the first Sunday of the month. All who wish to participate are asked to bring their own bread (individually packaged wafers are available, if needed) and wine/juice will be safely distributed by the ushers.

Following the service, the ushers will dismiss the congregation. While we understand and appreciate that everyone wants to fellowship with their church family and friends, we are asking that members not gather in the building following worship. If you would like to engage in conversation with others, please do so outside of the building.

Attendance will be taken every Sunday; if someone tests positive for Covid19, all those present will be notified and in-door worship will be cancelled for two weeks. These procedures are in place to protect everyone, especially those considered more vulnerable to contract the virus. If you are feeling sick, please DO NOT attend in-person worship. If you become sick and test positive for Covid19, please contact the church office or the pastor immediately so protective measures can be put into place.

The Church Board appreciates your prayers, support, and patience as we resume indoor worship. We will continue to review the observance of the guidelines and adjust procedures 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.

*Christ has no body now on earth but yours,
No hands but yours,
No feet but yours.*

*Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion looks out on
the world.*

Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good.

Yours are the hands with which He is to bless people now.

~Teresa of Avila

March 2021 Usher Serving Schedule

Head Usher - Mike Hunsicker
Ushers - Kim Kistler, Denise Moyer, Michael Kistler
Alternate - Laurie Seip

March 2021 Sound System Serving Schedule

March 7 ~ Mark Eberts
March 14 ~ Eric Schock
March 21 ~ Blaine/Gavin Seip
March 28 ~ Anthony Thomas

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS NEEDED

Sponsors are always welcome because it defrays our mailing costs. You can be a sponsor for as little as \$50.00, or you can choose to sponsor the entire newsletter for \$100.00. Send your sponsorship or contact the office at 570-386-4388.



Say a Prayer for:

*Loved Ones of
Mathias Brickler, Sr.*

*Loved Ones of
Chrissy Kadilak Beschock*

*Loved Ones of
Daniel Kozar*

*Loved Ones of
Willard Silfties*

*Loved Ones of
Gene Raymond*

*Loved Ones of
Kevin Kemp*

Danette Troxell

David Knoebel

Beverly Knoebel

Barbara Margiotta

Ronald Ziegler

Kadie Mae Foster

Gary Zehner

John Kowlewski

Tammy Kemery

Glenn Wehr

Jean Snyder

Chester Snyder

Carl Gerber

Doris Wolfe

Arnold Miller

Matthew Fox

Dan Myers

Paul David

Ronald Yuricheck

Jessica Nehm

Joni Pavlock

Allison Steigerwalt

Patty Bouman

Daniel Troxell

Slate Altenberg

Aiden Kreimendahl

Cathy Abrachinsky

Jeffrey Kistler, Sr.

Rose Pitts

Pam Hunsicker

Willard Dunbar

Mike & Bernice Delp

Jim Beers

Carol Tynan

Kim Cope

Lisa Serfass

Robert Coombe

Danika Tworkowsky

Walter Szymanski

Ben Fink

Diane Middlecamp

Gino Lorady

Bernie Matyascik

Jamie Phelan

Michael Hinkle

Kim & Dave Carson

Marion Kupres

Louise Billman

Tony Masor

Sherry Walz

Damian Birchess

Shari Yediny

Richard Kistler

Brian Abrachinsky

Darlene Kunkle

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

Jo Kunkle

Jackson Delebar

Vicki Pratt

Lucas Millot

Austin Klein

Melissa Drake

Lorna Hart

Matt Brickler

Carson Barron

Caroline Lantz

Gerri Steigerwalt

Robert Miller

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

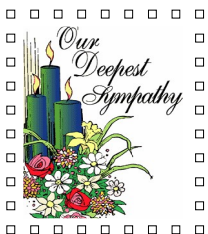
Trevor Schilling

Andy Snyder

Chad Wehr

Mark West

Scott West



Our sympathies go to the family and friends of

Wilbur Eberts

who passed into eternal life on February 3, 2021

Please remember this family in your prayers.

TIME TO REMOVE FLOWERS

THE CEMETERY BOARD REQUESTS THAT ALL CHRISTMAS FLOWERS (AND OLDER) BE REMOVED FROM THE CEMETERY BY **MARCH 31ST** TO GET READY FOR OUR SPRING CLEANUP. YOU ARE ALSO REMINDED, WHEN PLACING FLOWERS ON THE GRAVES FOR EASTER AND MEMORIAL DAY, TO PLEASE REFRAIN FROM USING ANYTHING HELD TOGETHER WITH WIRES. HIGH WINDS CARRY THEM TO THE NEARBY FIELDS, CAUSING DESTRUCTION OF LIVESTOCK.

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

**Non-Profit Org
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LEHIGHTON, PENNA
18235**

Dated Material Enclosed

**Address service or forwarding
service requested**

PERMIT NO. 154

