

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

(Contact for emergencies only, please. If you have a prayer request, please email) NOTE: Pastor Ginny will be unavailable March 21st, 22nd, & 23rd. Please contact Pastor Russ Campbell for any pastoral emergencies at 610-737-2634 Please contact Denise Moyer, Board President at 484-695-1887 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 <code>jrotc@ptd.net</code>.

Director of Music: Carol Steigerwalt
Financial Secretary: Jacqueline McCandless

Sexton: Lou Ann Algard
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

Church Office: info@stpwp.com

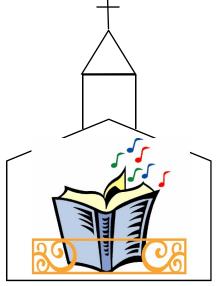
Financial Secretary: financials@stpwp.com Sunday School: spwpsundayschool@gmail.com

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

Web Master email: info@stpwp.com

Facebook: St Peter's Church of West Penn

Peter's Church Signature of Nest Penns



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."



PASTOR'S PAGE

My recent time away for continuing education was spent at Shrine Mont Retreat Center in Orkney Springs, VA. It is a lovely place located at the foot of Great North Mountain in the Shenandoah Valley. A favorite place of mine to spend time in prayer during our free time was at the labyrinth.

A labyrinth is a meditative spiritual practice that dates back thousands of years. The purpose is to make a prayerful journey toward God. It's not like a maze where you reach dead ends; the path in is also the path out. As you walk in you are walking toward God at the center of the labyrinth. Your arrival at the center symbolizes union with God and as you exit from the center, you are going with God back out into the world.

Some choose to carry a burden, a prayer, a question or a request to God and a symbol of it such as a note, a rock, a flower, etc. When you arrive at the center, you can place your symbol in the middle where there are usually many objects already there and you are invited to take one, if one truly speaks to you. You lay down your object, take some quiet time to spend with God and then make your way back out, feeling unburdened as you become aware that God is walking with you. It is truly a sacred experience.

It also reminds me of the Lenten journey that we embark upon each year at this time. We bring something with us: a burden, a prayer, a question, our sin, our fear, our doubt, a cross we have been carrying, and we make a journey toward God, a prayerful and meditative journey that brings us closer to God. We sit for awhile and ponder, we wait with God and then we make our way back out toward the world. But it's different on the way out, we have let go of something and we know God is walking with us, we know the world is still broken and hurting...maybe we are still broken and hurting, but we are heading toward the light, we are moving closer to the joy and mystery of the resurrection that is ever before us.

May your Lenten journey be a sacred and meaningful time, may you feel, as you are walking out of it, unburdened, refreshed, and renewed, with God at your side.

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Ginny



The Lenten Season Services for this year will be shared with our sister churches as the pastors will be collaborating in the leadership of the worship services. The schedule is as follows:

Midweek Lenten Worship at 7:00 PM on the following dates:

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

at Ben Salem UCC, 1965 Church Hill Road, Lehighton

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

at St. John's Lutheran Church, 826 Mahoning Drive West, Lehighton

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

at Zion Stone Church, 45 Cemetery Road, New Ringgold

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

at Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church, 1825 Dinkey Road, Lehighton

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

at St. Peter's

Maundy Thursday, Model Seder Meal

April 6, 2023 7:00 PM at Ben Salem UCC, Lehighton

Good Friday

April 7, 2023 7:00 PM at St. John's LC, Mahoning

Refreshments and fellowship to follow at each church after the mid-week Lenten services

Lenten Offering Envelopes

Lenten envelopes can be found at each entrance to the sanctuary or you can mail your special Lenten offerings to the OFFERING 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.

Lenten Outreach Project/Food For the Poor Donation

"Standing in the ruins of her home in Honduras, Karen tries to make sense of all that has happened as tears of pain and despair stream down her cheeks. She is inconsolable. After hours of torrential rain, her seven-year-old daughter, and her five-year-old son, lost their lives when a wall of their makeshift house collapsed under the force of flood waters. Karen is now childless. She finds comfort in God but continues to be overcome with grief and loss. An unstable home that once provided shelter for fifteen family members is now a pile of debris and the family is homeless."

(Recent Food for the Poor Article)

As we prepare our hearts for Easter during this Lenten season together as a church family, let us consider giving up \$10.00 per week throughout Lent and adding that amount to a Food for the Poor donation box. Maybe there is something you can forfeit for Christ to help a member of his family in desperate need: your Starbucks or Dunkin Donuts coffee, your favorite treats, a bottle of wine or a six-pack of beer, a night or two of take out or fast food, a trip to the nail salon, shopping on Amazon, lottery tickets, etc. Each gift of \$4900 specified for housing will be matched by another kind donor to enable the construction of an entire home. Together, we can share the hope and love of Christ by providing for our brothers and sisters.

In appreciation for all the blessings God has provided for us, what a blessing it would be for St. Peter's to provide a home to a family in need. Donation boxes are available on the tables in the parlor and at each entrance, please take one and help us help others!

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS NEEDED

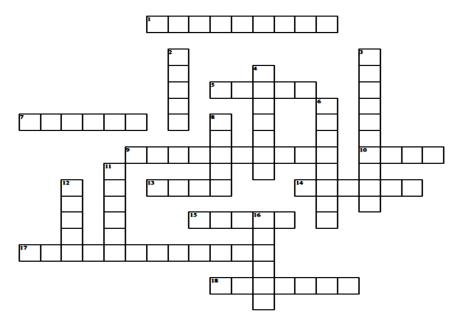
Sponsors are always welcome because it defrays our mailing costs. Our postage has increased due to the Post Office raising prices. You can be a sponsor for as little as \$75.00, or you can choose to sponsor the entire newsletter for \$150.00. Send your sponsorship or contact the office at 570-386-4388.



ST. PETER'S | FUNDRAISING

The *Kitchen Krew* will be holding a fundraiser making filling for Easter again this year. The price is \$7/Qt. Order by *March 19th* Pickup Good Friday *April 7th* at the South Entrance from 11:00 AM -2:00 PM. Call Karen Diehl 570-386-5472 to order.

LENTEN CROSSWORD



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- 1. ASH
- 5. The Christian holy book
- 7. Jesus entered Jerusalem on this animal
- 9. Day in Lent recalling Jesus' death (2 words)
- 10. Branches waved at Jesus upon his entry into Jerusalem
- 13. Was with Jesus at the cross

- 14. Jesus prayed for 40 days here
- 15. What Jesus died upon 17. We spend Lent preparing for Jesus death and
- 18. Giving to _____ is a good Lenten practice

Down

- 2. What Jesus shed for our sins
- 3. Holy Communion started after this
- 4. To go without
- 6. The final week of Lent (2 words)
- 8. Number of days in LENT
- 11. Season after Lent
- 12. Disciple who betrayed Jesus
- 16. PALM ____

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

FUTURE BUS TRIPS

MACKINAC ISLAND

Including Frankenmuth & The Upper Peninsula
6 Days - 5 Nights
June 11 - 16, 2023
\$1,030.00 Per Person (Double Occupancy) \$1,360.00 (Single)

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 Per Person Adult \$110 (Child 3-12)

For information and reservations contact: Sue Conner @ 570-778-5367

BELLS! BELLS! BELLS!



Hopefully you enjoyed hearing our Bell Choir ~ BUT, we could sure use some more ringers! We have lots of extra bells that, if played, would make the sound even better. If you'd like to come to a practice and see if you might enjoy playing, please

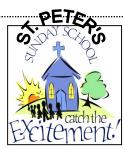
contact Carol Steigerwalt at 570-768-5165, or just come to a practice ~ *Thursdays at 6:30 PM beginning March 2nd* ~~~ and, we have lots of fun!

The deadline for the April issue of the "Cornerstone" is Tuesday, March 14th ~ THIS IS A STRICT DEADLINE! Deadline for articles/information is always the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Sunday School, 10:15 a.m., Every Sunday

⇒ 4/8 ~ Easter Egg Hunt

Grab your baskets! The Annual St. Peter's Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 8th, 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!



Catch the excitement and join a Sunday School class today. 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!"

Safety and Security Committee

The Safety and Security Committee is looking for new volunteers. There will be committee meeting for new and existing members following church on *Sunday*, *March 19*, *2023*. The Safety and Security Committee will be reviewing current safety measures and protocols and discussing changes that may be necessary. Please consider joining us.

2023 ALTAR & BOWL FLOWER COST CHANGE

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: \$30.00 per altar arrangement, Piano Bowl: \$30.00 and \$30.00 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.

DON'T FORGET TO SPRING AHEAD!

Daylight Savings Time begins on *March 12th* at 2:00 AM. Remember to set your clocks ahead 1 hour.



The first day of Spring is March 20th.



FROM THE CHURCH BOARD

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

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.

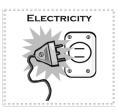
In 2022 it cost \$15,941.31 for heat (<u>an increase of 72%</u>), \$7,412.29 for electric (<u>an increase of 36%</u>), and \$3,252.68 for the elevator (for repairs and maintenance).

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!







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.

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.

W. A. S. P. News



The next meeting of the Women's Association of St. Peter's will be on *Tuesday, March 21st* at 7:00 PM. Marion Frantz will lead the ladies in worship. Nancy Knadler and Charlene Miller will provide refreshments.

WASP is again taking orders for Easter Flowers from now until *March* 12th. Order forms are available on the table in the church parlor, both entrances to the sanctuary, and can be found in this newsletter. Money and forms can be given to Lori Hoppes or turned into or mailed to the church office. Please contact Lori with any questions at 570-386-2440. or call/text her at 610-393-0901.

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.

February's Joyous Noise Offering totaled \$186.16 and was designated for Food For the Poor.

The Joyous Noise Recipient for the month of March has been designated for Peaceful Knights Inc. Founded in 2007, Peaceful Knights offers housing for homeless men and women in Carbon County. They have both an emergency shelter as well as a transitional shelter. Upon arrival, Peaceful Knights ensures that individuals have clothing, food and necessities. They then help those in need to secure employment through job hunting activities. Those living at Peaceful Knights shelters are required to attend church weekly as this is a Faith Based Organization. The Joyous Noise collection for March will take place on Sunday. March 12, 2023. All checks can be made payable to St. Peter's Sunday School.

If you know of an organization or individual that could benefit from St. Peter's Joyous Noise Offering, please contact Samantha Kistler, Nicole Hunsicker, or the church office, and thank you for your support!

C U T	Ea	Easter Flower Orders Sponsored by WASP Women's Association of St. Peter's	
A	■ In Honor of		
L 0	BY		
N G	In Memory Of		
D O T	BY		
T E	Lilies	\$ 9.25	
D	Daffodils	\$ 7.50	
	■ Tulips	\$ 7.50	
L	■ Hydrangeas	\$ 16.00	
I N E	 Mums	\$ 9.25	
	■ Money must acc	Sunday, March 12th ompany the order yable to: W.A.S.P.)	

Give Orders to:
Lori Hoppes, home: 570-386-2440
Call or text to cell: 610-393-0901
or turn in or mail to the church office



Hoping into Spring!

By Barbara Nametko



Spring is almost here, and preschool is very excited! We are looking forward to warmer weather, baby animals, spring flowers and all that spring has to offer. One of our other favorite parts of March is St. Patrick's Day and that tricky Leprechaun. Hopefully all the green and shamrocks around our room encourages that tricky Leprechaun to come visit our preschool room!

We will be focusing on the letters S,T,U,& V, number 8 and the colors, red, yellow and green.

Preschool is holding our annual raffle this month. We will be raffling off an outdoor rocking chair set. Tickets are \$10 each and our drawing will take place on Friday March 17th at 2:30pm. We will also be selling delicious butter braids and cake rolls that will arrive just in time for Easter. If you are interested in either of our fundraisers, please feel free to ask any of our preschool families, or contact Mrs. Houser, or Mrs. Nametko.

Preschool registration is now open for the 2023-2024 school year. This year our open house will be on Wednesday, March 8th from 3-5pm. If you know anyone that is interested in preschool, please tell them to stop by. Happy Spring and thank you for all your support!

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 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, God's 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;"

Say a Prayer for:

Loved Ones of Ethel Ringler Loved Ones of Wayne Lohrke Loved Ones of Richard Kistler Chester Jones Ralph Fisher George Belanchick Gary Steigerwalt Ronald Yuricheck Dan McMullen Dan Myers Bob Goerner Gladys Balliet Robert Coombe Althea Zehner Caleb Nelson Loretta Beers Teena Miller David Schoch Erin Coombe Dorothy Miller Sharon Tanczos Karen Lenhart Wesley Whiting Billy James Charlotte Solt Wyatt Davis Rita Yarnell Laurie Black Eric Breiner Matt Brickler 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
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

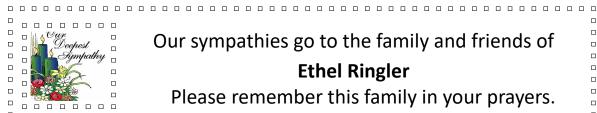
Our Military Overseas:

Deployed to Japan: John McGuire Deployed to Africa: Jonathan & Michelle Liggitt

Our Military ~ **Active Not Deployed**:

Patrick Donohue, II Mark Habel Dustin Hoppes LeRov E. Kromer II Timothy Kromer Ezekiel Kuneck Sean Kurtz Antonio Lorenzo Dominic Lorenzo

Amanda Miller Lisa Miller Austin Resch Andy Snyder Chad Tyler Resch Trevor Schilling Chad Wehr Mark West Scott West



Our sympathies go to the family and friends of **Ethel Ringler**

Please remember this family in your prayers.

CONGRATULATIONS

to

Zachary and Erin Hunsicker who welcomed a son, Rowan Arnold Hunsicker,

born on January 29th.

Rowan is the grandson of Mike and Sue Hunsicker, great-grandson to Kay Arnold and Merk and Laverne Hunsicker, nephew to Josh and Niki Hunsicker and cousin to Mason and Tate Hunsicker.



Daily Lectionary Readings for March 2023

Wednesday, March 1, 2023: Psalm 32; Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28; Matthew 18:10-14 **Thursday, March 2, 2023**: Psalm 121; Isaiah 51:1-3; 2 Timothy 1:3-7 Friday, March 3, 2023: Psalm 121; Micah 7:18-20; Romans 3:21-31 **Saturday, March 4, 2023**: Psalm 121; Isaiah 51:4-8; Luke 7:1-10 Sunday, March 5, 2023: Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17 Monday, March 6, 2023: Psalm 128; Numbers 21:4-9; Hebrews 3:1-6 **Tuesday, March 7, 2023**: Psalm 128; Isaiah 65:17-25; Romans 4:6-13 Wednesday, March 8, 2023: Psalm 128; Ezekiel 36:22-32; John 7:53-8:11 **Thursday, March 9, 2023**: Psalm 95; Exodus 16:1-8; Colossians 1:15-23 Friday, March 10, 2023: Psalm 95; Exodus 16:9-21; Ephesians 2:11-22 **Saturday, March 11, 2023**: Psalm 95; Exodus 16:27-35; John 4:1-6 **Sunday, March 12, 2023**: Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42 Monday, March 13, 2023: Psalm 81; Genesis 24:1-27; 2 John 1:1-13 Tuesday, March 14, 2023: Psalm 81; Genesis 29:1-14; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4 Wednesday, March 15, 2023: Psalm 81; Jeremiah 2:4-13; John 7:14-31, 37-39 Thursday, March 16, 2023: Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:10-21; Ephesians 4:25-32 Friday, March 17, 2023: Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:22-31; Ephesians 5:1-9 Saturday, March 18, 2023: Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:32-34; John 1:1-9 **Sunday, March 19, 2023**: Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41 Monday, March 20, 2023: Psalm 146; Isaiah 59:9-19; Acts 9:1-20 Tuesday, March 21, 2023: Psalm 146; Isaiah 42:14-21; Colossians 1:9-14 Wednesday, March 22, 2023: Psalm 146; Isaiah 60:17-22; Matthew 9:27-34 Thursday, March 23, 2023: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2:8-3:3; Revelation 10:1-11 Friday, March 24, 2023: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 33:10-16; Revelation 11:15-19 **Saturday, March 25, 2023**: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 36:8-15; Luke 24:44-53 Sunday, March 26, 2023: Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45 Monday, March 27, 2023: Psalm 143; 1 Kings 17:17-24; Acts 20:7-12 **Tuesday, March 28, 2023**: Psalm 143; 2 Kings 4:18-37; Ephesians 2:1-10 Wednesday, March 29, 2023: Psalm 143; Jeremiah 32:1-9, 36-41; Matthew 22:23-33 **Thursday, March 30, 2023**: Psalm 31:9-16; 1 Samuel 16:11-13; Philippians 1:1-11

Friday, March 31, 2023: Psalm 31:9-16; Job 13:13-19; Philippians 1:21-30



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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