

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 10:00 AM ~ 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

Church Office Phone: (570) 386-4388

Financial Secretary: Jacqueline McCandless

Church Office: Elaine Koons

Church Office Hours: Tuesday ~ Friday from 10:00 AM~2:00 PM

Sexton: Lori Hoppes

Director of Music: Carol Steigerwalt

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

SPECIAL UPDATE TO THE NEWSLETTER
(October 28, 2020)

In person worship and Sunday School is postponed for the next two weeks.

We will return to the sanctuary on ***Sunday, November 15th***. Please join us for our live-stream worship at 9:00 AM.

We will celebrate Holy Communion virtually this Sunday and honor and remember our "saints" for All Saints Sunday. Please have your bread and wine available for the liturgy.

You can view the service on our Facebook page at 'St Peters Church, West Penn' or click on the Facebook link on our website at stpeterschurchwestpenn.com

The Pork & Sauerkraut Supper has been postponed and a new date will be determined, if possible.

Food donations for the Thanksgiving Meals can be brought to the church during office hours.

Donations are due by ***Sunday, November 15th***.

Please wear a mask.

If you would like to take part in our Operation Shoe Box please stop by the church to pick up your shoebox.

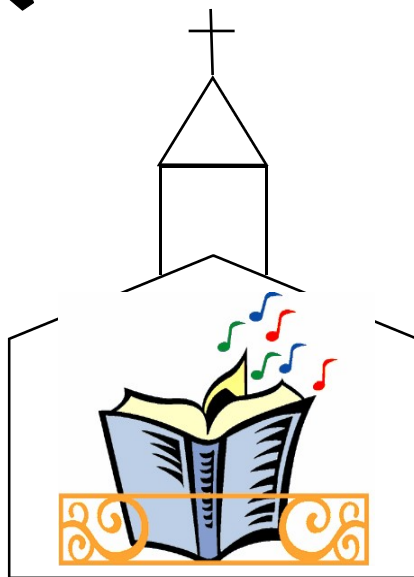
Please wear a mask.

All shoeboxes are due by ***Sunday, November 15th***.

The church will be holding a fundraiser by selling gift cards. More information will be posted on our Facebook page and website. Order forms will be available in the church parlor and at each entrance to the sanctuary in the coming weeks and payment will be due when your order is placed.

The Brickler Family is looking for a caregiver for Matt. If you are interested, or know of anyone who might be interested, please contact the Bricklers at 570-386-4413 or by email at samob@ptd.net

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.”



Fall is my favorite time of year. I love when the leaves begin to change, and the landscape reflects the artistry of God's magnificent creation. I love the pumpkins, gourds, mums, fall festivals, the seasonal foods and drinks, the cooler weather—pulling the sweaters and the boots out of the closet, journeying on the walking trails to see the changes in action as the leaves are scattered on the path before me. I really enjoy the way that nature teaches us about change—not just the changing seasons on the calendar but the changing seasons of our lives.

Change IS a guarantee of life. As much as some of us would like things to stay the same because we are safe and secure in our “comfort zones” life does not work that way. I think the concept of change has hit all of us extremely hard this year...everything has changed—our world has completely turned upside down. We have been introduced to a whole new season of life we never thought we would see: the season of Covid19. And in this brand-new season for which we were not prepared, we are being reminded of that one guarantee of life: change.

As the season of Fall reminds us: change does not have to be a bad thing; in fact, I know this from personal experience (my own and others) that change equals growth. Do we think that when we reach a certain age we stop growing? Sure, we stop growing physically but why would we want to stop growing emotionally and spiritually? And change (whether we like it or not) forces us to grow.

Can you resist change? Of course, you can—you are the master of your own attitude and actions. But what will that resistance cost you? Bruce Lee once said:

“Notice that the stiffest tree is most easily cracked, while the bamboo or willow survives by bending with the wind.”

Resistance often damages us in ways we might not even realize; it can place cracks in us and leave us in need of repair. But bending with the wind helps us to survive: physically, emotionally and spiritually. We need to remember that God is in charge; God is the Master of the Universe and God uses all kinds of changes in our lives and in our world to help us grow. If you are resisting change, are you also resisting what God is trying to do in your

life? God's Spirit blows through our lives like the wind; let's not be so resistant to the changes to which God has in store for us that we crack, but rather let's bend a little and see what great things God will do!

*Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Ginny*

I would like to extend my heartfelt thank you to the congregation for the gift I was given for Pastor's Appreciation month. The gift included a \$100 gift card for Barnes & Noble and a Gratitude Journal. I love books and I love to journal, so these were well thought out and perfect gifts for me. I would also like to extend my appreciation back to the congregation for being so very loving, caring and supportive of my ministry here at St. Peter's. You are a wonderful congregation and a joy to serve!

*With Love,
Pastor Ginny*

PLEASE NOTE:

Pastor Ginny will be out of the office for a continuing education course on Wednesday afternoon, November 11th and all day on Thursday, November 12th. If you have an emergency or are in need of pastoral care, please contact Kim Kistler at 570-778-2988.

Thanksgiving Meals

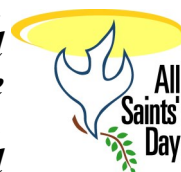
We will again be collecting items in order to distribute Thanksgiving meals to families in need. Specifically, we are requesting traditional Thanksgiving items such as: canned hams, instant mashed potatoes, stuffing mix, and cans of gravy, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, vegetables, etc. We will also be accepting monetary donations which will be utilized to purchase turkey breasts. We will accept donations through **Sunday, November 15th** so we can pack the meals during that week and they can be blessed on **November 22nd**. Also, if anyone is aware of a family that would be blessed by receiving a meal, please contact Lori Hoppes or Kim Kistler or any member of the Worship and Music Committee.



NOV Special Events

All Saints Day

On Sunday, November 1st, during our morning worship, St. Peter's will honor all our Saints who have passed into eternal rest since last November. There will be a special observance within the liturgy to remember these loved ones and friends. Please make it a priority to worship with us for this special Christian observance.



Veterans Day Recognition



Recognition to honor our veterans will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 8th. Please join us as we honor the men and women who have courageously made personal sacrifices so that our freedom can be preserved.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

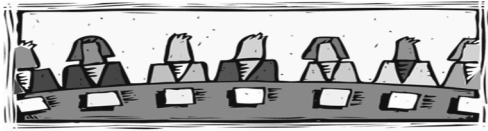
A Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held on Wednesday, November 25th at 7:30 PM. The service will involve "blessing of the bread" and people are invited to bring the bread/rolls which they will be serving at their Thanksgiving meal to the service to be blessed. Please make sure it is wrapped and/or covered.

A Silver Lining

Burned your turkey to a crisp? Don't despair!

Craig Boldman and Pete Matthews, authors of *Every Excuse in the Book* (Mjif Books), offer reasons to be thankful for a blackened bird:

- You'll get a good upper-body workout from carving the bird...
- No one will get food poisoning from undercooked poultry...
 - You can move straight to dessert...
- You won't have to deal with weeks of leftovers...
 - Pets won't pester you for scraps...



CHURCH BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From Board Meeting of - - October 25th~~

Mike Hunsicker reported that he only received 1 quote so far for replacing the roof over the sanctuary and that it probably won't take place until Spring. However, it was noted that there are 2 shingles that need replacing now. He stated that he will donate the labor for this project but he will need to rent a lift in order to do the work. This was approved by the Board.

Mike also stated that Emery Brothers agreed to meet with him sometime after Easter in order to obtain a list of repairs and the costs involved for the organ.

It was noted that volunteers are needed in order to learn the sound and video aspects of streaming the services. If interested, please contact Pastor Ginny, Justin Imbody or call the church office.

The Board has hired Carol Steigerwalt as our new Director of Music.

It was reported that the Blood Mobile held at the church in September resulted in 24 pints collected. Thank you to everyone who participated.

A motion was made and approved to recommend the benevolence goal for 2021 at \$15,000.00 or \$7,500.00 to each denomination.

Since we will still be under Covid guidelines in December, it was determined that in order to meet these guidelines, signup times for the Christmas Eve services is necessary. A form is to be included in the newsletter, available online, and available at each entrance to the sanctuary in order to fill out preferences. Paper forms can be mailed to the church or put in the collection plates on Sunday.

The next meeting of the Church Board will be held on Sunday, November 15th at 10:30 AM.

*All meetings are open for all to attend.
(Complete copies of the minutes may be obtained from the church office.)*

Benevolence Update:

**Total YTD (as of October 18): \$ 15,153.50
(2020 combined benevolence goal of \$15,000.00 HAS BEEN EXCEEDED)**

**The deadline for the December/January issue of
the “*Cornerstone*” is Tuesday, November 10th.
Please note, this is a 2-month issue**



Joyous Noise Offering

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE TO MAKE CHRIST'S LOVE

October's Joyous Noise Offering totaled \$125.19 and was used to support our local food pantries. Thank you for your support!

November's Joyous Noise offering will be taken on Sunday, November 8th and will be used for 'Stockings for Soldiers.' Blue Ridge Communications is collecting food and hygiene items, along with Christmas cards, for our men and women stationed and spending Christmas away from home in such countries as Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait. The Joyous Noise collection will be used to purchase these items and help with shipping.

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 individual that could benefit from St. Peter's Joyous Noise Offering, please contact Suzie Hartung or Megan Frantz.

Operation Shoe Box

We will again take part in our Operation Shoe Box Mission Project this year. Operation Shoe Box is a project of Samaritan's Purse which delivers Christmas presents to children around the world who may otherwise not receive any gifts at Christmas.

Boxes and information providing details of how and what to pack in your shoe box will be available in the church parlor throughout the fall. You will be able to choose a gender and an age group for the child that will receive your shoe box. The final collection date for filled boxes will be on *November 15h, 2020.*



In the fading of the summer sun, the shortening of days, cooling breeze, swallows' flight and moonlight rays ~

WE SEE THE CREATOR'S HAND.

In the browning of leaves once green, morning mists, autumn chill, fruit that falls frost's first kiss ~

WE SEE THE CREATOR'S HAND.

~ unknown



FROM THE CHURCH BOARD

"Heating season" has arrived!

We hope you would 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 \$16,800 for heat and electricity. We also have a monthly elevator maintenance bill of \$212.25. 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 hope to see you in church!

St Peter's Church Board



November Serving Schedule

Head Usher - Tyler Foster

Ushers - Laurie Seip, Mike Hunsicker, Kim Kistler

Alternate - Michael Kistler

- Nov. 1 -** Lector: Michael Kistler
(white) **Sound System/Videographer:** Justin Imbody
- Nov. 8 -** Lector: Burdell Snyder
(green) **Sound System:** Aaron Frantz
Videographer: Justin Imbody
- Nov. 15 -** Lector: Mike Hunsicker
(green) **Sound System:** Eric Schock
Videographer: Justin Imbody
- Nov. 22 -** Lector: WASP ~ Diana Schaeffer
(green or white) **Sound System:** Mark Eberts
Videographer: Justin Imbody
- Nov. 29 -** Lector: Merk Hunsicker
(green) **Sound System/Videographer:** Justin Imbody

ST. PETER'S BUILDING FUND / FUND RAISING ACCOUNT

Fund Raising Account Balance is \$64,100.00

Summary:

- ♦ **Thrivent Financial** - Several St. Peter's members affiliated with Thrivent Financial have directed their "choice dollars" to St. Peter's Building Fund. The annual total received from Thrivent Financial is \$1,556.00. Thank you to Thrivent and thank you to our St. Peter's members for directing dollars.
- ♦ Touchless auto soap dispensers, adjustable hand sanitizer stands, and touchless faucets were purchased and installed throughout the church building. The expenses totaled \$6,150.00.

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.

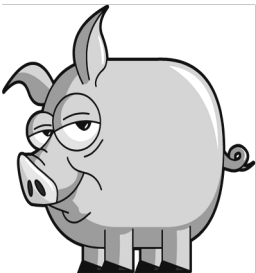
Apple Dumplings: CANCELLED until further notice.

Thanksgiving **Filling** orders are due **Sunday, November 8th** with pickup on **Wednesday, November 25th** from 11:00 AM ~ 2:00 PM. at the social hall. 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. If you call 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.

DRIVE-THRU PORK & SAUERKRAUT SUPPER



Drive-thru, Take-out Pork & Sauerkraut Supper will be held on **Saturday, November 14th from 4:00 ~ 7:00 PM**. Food donations and volunteers are needed ~ please contact Lori Hoppes. Forms are also available at each entrance to the sanctuary

Invite your friends and neighbors ~
see you there!

St. Peter's Church Christmas Eve Service

St. Peter's Church is committed to providing safe worship opportunities for our entire church family. The Christmas season is approaching, and the church board remains committed to following social distancing guidelines and your help is needed. Some of our Christmas Eve Church services become quite full and to ensure everyone can worship safely, we would like everyone to provide information pertaining to their preferences regarding the time they would like to attend Christmas Eve Services. This year we will be offering three services, 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Please complete the survey detailing the preferences of your family. Surveys (one per family) should be **completed no later than November 15, 2020** and can be found either online on the church's website, or within the newsletter and returned to the church. Forms are also available at each entrance to the sanctuary and can be placed in the offering plates.

We understand that everyone wants to attend the Christmas Eve service within the sanctuary, and we will do everything we can to ensure that everyone can worship together at their preferred time; however, if one service time becomes full, we may need to contact you regarding your preferred service time. We appreciate your feedback and support in planning a safe Christmas Eve Service for all! Thank you!

✂ -----Cut Along Dotted Line -----

First and Last Name	Number of People Planning on Attending Service	Contact Phone Number

Which service (2PM, 7PM, 10:30PM) would be your <u>first</u> choice?	Which service (2PM, 7PM, 10:30PM) would be your <u>second</u> choice?

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**St. Peter's Union Church
Poinsettia Orders**

**Sponsored by the
Women's Association of St. Peter's
Deadline - November 29th**

IN HONOR OF _____

BY _____

IN MEMORY OF

BY _____

Cost per Plant - \$8:00

Money Must Accompany The Order

Orders may be given to:

Lori Hoppes (386-2440)

W. A. S. P. News



On **Sunday, November 22nd** the women will present their Thank Offering Service during our morning worship service.

The White Gifts for Bethany Children's Home (UCC) and St. Luke's (Lutheran) will be received on **Sunday, November 22nd, Sunday, November 29th** and **Sunday, December 6th**. One basket will be set up at each entrance to the sanctuary containing plain envelopes for your gifts.

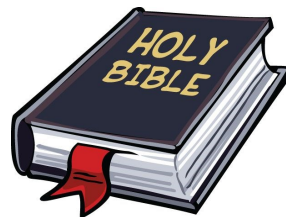
The next meeting of the Women's Association of St. Peter's is scheduled on **Tuesday, November 17th** at 7:00 PM.

They will be taking orders for Christmas Poinsettias **from November 1st through November 29th**. A form can be found in this edition of the newsletter and can also be picked up at each entrance to the sanctuary. The deadline for ordering is **November 29th** and the cost is \$8:00 each. Forms can be given to Lori Hoppes.

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.

THE BIBLE IN FIFTY WORDS

God made
Adam bit
Noah arked
Abraham Split
Jacob fooled
Joseph ruled
Bush talked
Moses balked
Pharaoh plagued
People walked
Sea divided
Tablets guided
Promise landed



Saul freaked
David peeked
Prophets warned
Jesus born
God walked
Love talked
Anger crucified
Hope died
Love rose
Spirit flamed
Word spread
God remained

SIX LITTLE STORIES WITH LOTS OF MEANINGS

- 1) Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is **FAITH**.
- 2) When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is **TRUST**.
- 3) Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but we still set the alarms to wake up. That is **HOPE**.
- 4) We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is **CONFIDENCE**.
- 5) We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is **LOVE**.
- 6) On an old man's shirt was written: "I am not 80 years old, I am Sweet 16 with 64 years of experience." That is **ATTITUDE**.

Have happy days and live your life like these six stories, and remember to:

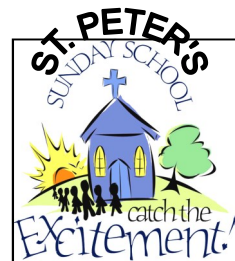
'Sing like no one is listening, Love like you've never been hurt.

Dance like nobody's watching, and live like it's heaven on earth.'

Upcoming Sunday School Events:

Sunday School, 10:15 a.m., Every Sunday
(unless otherwise noted)

- ⇒ **11/14, 4~7pm**– Drive-thru, Take-out Pork & Sauerkraut Supper. Food donations and volunteers are requested. Forms are available at each entrance to the sanctuary ~ please return filled out forms to Lori Hoppes.



Catch the excitement and join a Sunday School class today. **We have classes for all ages that are Covid19 safe.** Teachers and helpers are also always welcome. Anyone willing to be part of this great educational experience should see Curt Hartung. Just remember, you can't ask "*What would Jesus do?*" until you know "*What Jesus did and said!*"

DON'T FORGET!

Standard time begins at 2:00 am on
November 1st.

Remember to "fall back" and set your clocks
Saturday night before you retire ~ and, don't forget to
check your smoke alarm batteries!!





Thankful Turkeys

by Barbara Nametko

4

November is already here, and Preschool has a lot to be thankful for! We are thankful for are our families, new friends and getting to say 'Hi' to Pastor Ginny and Ms. Elaine after snack. We are also very thankful for the wonderful church for giving us such a special place to learn and have fun.

This month we will be focusing on the letters G, H and I. The number 4, triangles and the colors brown and purple. We will also be talking about our families and being thankful.

One of our fun crafts this month will be making a special turkey shirt with our handprint. Check out our Facebook page to see our awesome shirts and to see some of the cutest little turkeys singing some silly turkey songs!

Preschool will be holding our annual Thanksgiving feast on November 24th and 25th. We will be enjoying some delicious sandwiches cut out like turkeys with some yummy turkey feathers (cheese puffs) and we will even try some pumpkin cookies.

Due to the current COVID restrictions, we will be unable to hold our annual basket raffle. However, keep an eye on our Facebook page for a special raffle that we will be holding.

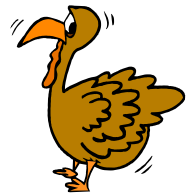
Thank you to the church for supporting Preschool! We are truly blessed to have such wonderful support.

G

H

Happy Thanksgiving!

I



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

Say a Prayer for:

*Loved Ones of
Kathryn Delano
Loved Ones of
Bernice Hunsicker
Loved Ones of
Eric Nelson
Kadie Foster
Cathy Abrachinsky
Joanne Dunbar
Andrew Kane
Pam Hunsicker
Mike and Bernice Delp
Lori Ruch
Chester Snyder
Jean Snyder
Jim Beers
Kathy Keich
Chris Filchner
Barbara Margiotta
Carol Tynan
Kim Cope
Lisa Serfass
Robert Coombe
Carl Yacovelli
Danika Tworkowsky
Mary Aaron
Walter Szymanski
Ben Fink
Diane Middlecamp
Dale Roth
Gino Lorady
Bernie Matyascik
Slate Altenburg
Jamie Phelan
Michael Hinkle
Debbie Mooney
Kim & Dave Carson
Marion Kupres
Ronald Ziegler
Louise Billman*

*Diane Urban
Tony Masor
Jeff Boyer
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*

Our Military Overseas:

*Deployed to
Afghanistan:
Michael Zeigenfuss
Deployed to Germany:
Sean Steigerwalt
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
Tylor Resch
Trevor Schilling
Andy Snyder
Chad Wehr
Mark West
Scott West*

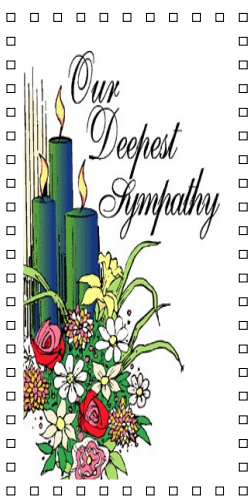
Our Missionaries:

*Michael, Kay, Mikayla, Leilani, &
Michael Killar
Maude, Valera, Zarina, Alexander, &
Nicolas Motovilov*



Those on Our Visitation List:

*Buddy Arner
Arlene Breiner
Lynn Gerber
Eldora Rex
Velma Schaeffer
June Williams
Doris Wolfe
Gladys Zehner*



Our sympathies go to the families of

Gail Forte

who passed into eternal life on
September 25, 2020
and

Kathryn Delano

who passed into eternal life on
October 10, 2020
and

Bernice Hunsicker

who passed into eternal life on
October 11, 2020
and

Eric Nelson

who passed into eternal life on
October 20, 2020

Please remember these families in your prayers.

St. Peter's Family,

Thank you for the flowers from church.

Gladys Krell



INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE GUIDELINES

The Church Board would like to thank everyone for taking time to complete the COVID -19 survey. The congregation's input is appreciated and helpful in planning ongoing worship services. The Board has reviewed the responses and the current recommendations from both the PNEC and NEPA Synod.

The worship services will be streamed live via Facebook at 9:00 a.m. for those who do not feel comfortable worshipping in person.

In an effort to continue to keep everyone healthy and safe, social distancing will be practiced in the sanctuary. Seating will be available in every other pew. As was the practice outdoors, family members are encouraged to sit together and allow six feet between other members/families. Ushers will be available to assist with seating. Overflow seating will be available in the social hall, if needed.

Additionally, masks will be required at all times while in the church building. We will continue to have special music, but there will not be congregational singing at this time. Members may place their offering in the plates at the entrances to the sanctuary rather than passing the offering plates. Holy Communion will be celebrated on the first Sunday of the month following the same practice as was utilized during the outdoor worship services. Members are asked to bring their own bread (individually packaged wafers are available, if needed) and wine/juice will be 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. Social distancing following the service was a specific area of concern listed in several of the survey responses. Hopefully, this practice will help everyone feel more comfortable attending indoor worship.

The Church Board appreciates your prayers, support and patience as we resume indoor worship. We will continue to review the procedures and make adjustments as needed. As always, if you have any concerns or suggestions, please discuss them with a Board member.

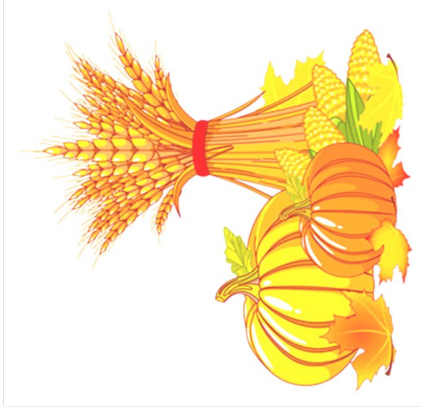
**St Peter's Church, West Penn
184 St Peters Rd
Tamaqua PA 18252**

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18235**

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PERMIT NO. 154



NOVEMBER