



St. Peter's Church, West Penn
184 St. Peter's Road Tamaqua PA 18252 570-386-4388

Pastor Josh Nemeth 570-449-5993
Pastor's Office Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays
from 10:00AM ~ 3:00 PM
Other times available by Appointment

Michael Hunsicker, Board President ~ 570-778-1972
Lori Hoppes, Vice President ~ 610-393-0901

Contact for our TLC Committee for Your Special Needs:
Please call Nancy Knadler at (570) 956-6851 , or email at Lukie@ptd.net

Sexton: Lou Ann Algard 570-778-4063

Financial Secretary: Sharon Main

Church Office: Elaine Koons

Church Office Phone: (570) 386-4388

**Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00am—1:00pm,
Friday from 10:00am-2:00pm (Hours subject to change)**

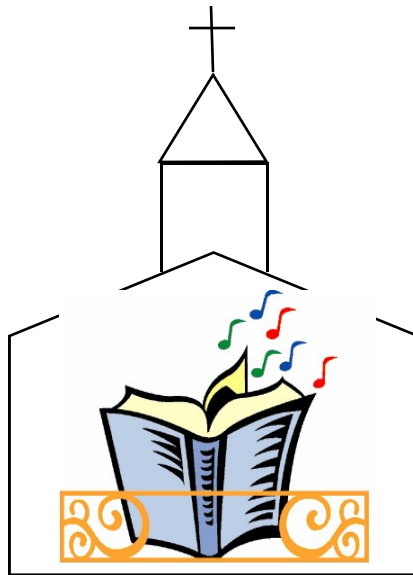
E-mail addresses: **Pastor Josh: pastor@stpwp.com**
 Church Office: info@stpwp.com
 Financial Secretary: financials@stpwp.com
 Sunday School: spwpsundayschool@gmail.com

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."



March 29th through April 5th

Sunday, March 29th *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 2nd *Maundy Thursday, 6:30 p.m.*

at Ben Salem UCC ~ Seder Meal



An ecumenical Service of Holy Communion remembering Jesus sharing the Last Supper with his disciples at Ben Salem Church.

Friday, April 3rd *Good Friday, 7:00 p.m.*

at St. John’s Lutheran

An ecumenical Tenebrae service remembering Christ’s Crucifixion at St. John’s Church.



Sunday, April 5th ~ *Easter Sunday*

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service and 9:00 a.m. Service

Sacrament of Communion at both services.

Celebrate the Resurrection of Christ from death at St. Peter’s
(Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.)



What Easter Really Changes.

Every year, we have the opportunity as the church to celebrate Easter. We do so with beautiful music, bright flowers, and the joyful proclamation that *Christ is risen*. For so many people, however, Easter can begin to feel like simply another holiday on the calendar. It becomes something we celebrate for a day with a little bit of church, a basket of eggs from a giant (terrifying) rabbit, a big meal, and then quickly moved past. But the resurrection of Jesus was never meant to be just a **moment** of celebration. It is a reality of life that changes everything **daily**! So, what does easter resurrection really change then? Join with me for a couple of thoughts:

The resurrection changes how we face **fear**. Fear constantly surrounds us. As we have journeyed through our “*Holding On*” series, we looked fear in the face and acknowledged the presence, but praised the power of God over fear in our lives. Just as the disciples who once hid behind locked doors became bold witnesses because they had seen the risen Christ, we are called to the same confidence. They knew that even death itself had been defeated. Because Jesus lives, fear no longer has the final say over our lives.

The resurrection also changes how we face **suffering**. The sad truth of reality is that life still brings storms, plenty of struggles, and seasons of grief. Wave after wave, these are areas that we will face. Faith does not remove hardship from our lives. Yet Easter reminds us that suffering is never the end of the story. The cross was real, painful, and devastating, but it was not the last chapter. God is in the narrative changing business as He brought life out of death, brought hope out of despair, and brings stories out of our suffering as He redeems us one moment at a time.

The resurrection changes how we live with **hope**. Christian hope is not just some form of wishful thinking or a blind optimism. It is confidence rooted in what God has already done. When Jesus came walking out of that tomb, what He ultimately proved is that God’s promises are strong. They are stronger than any sin, stronger than any darkness, and stronger even than death. This means that despair never has the final word. The resurrection of Jesus does!

Where the world sees endings, God is able to bring new beginnings. Where we see dry bones, God breathes life. Where we feel weary and uncertain, the risen Christ meets us with grace and power. Easter invites us not only to celebrate the resurrection, but to live in light of it every single day we possibly can. It calls us to trust God when the road is difficult, to hold on to hope when circumstances feel heavy, and to remember that the same power that raised Christ from the dead is living and coursing through us.

So, as we celebrate Easter this year, may we remember this power truth: the resurrection is not just a day on the calendar. It is the foundation of our faith and the promise that God is still bringing life where we least expect it. Christ is risen. And because He lives, hope lives too. We are called in every way to be a “**Resurrection People.**”

Pastor Josh



Lenten Series
of
Shared Worship

The remaining Lenten Season Services for this year will be:

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, 6:30 pm

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Ben Salem UCC, 1965 Church Hill Road, Lehighton, PA
Seder Meal

Good Friday, April 3rd, 7:00 pm

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

All offerings will be given to the Cold Weather Warming Station Ministry.



Joyous Noise Offering

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE TO MAKE CHRIST'S LOVE KNOWN

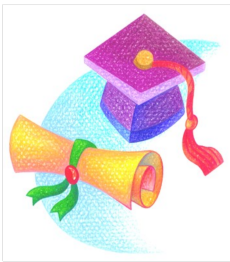
March's Joyous Noise collection totaled \$ 434.39 will go toward Austin Klein's education. Austin started attending St. Joseph's Center for Special Learning after attending public school for kindergarten. St. Joseph's Center provides a learning environment tailored to Austin's unique needs. This donation will go directly toward Austin's tuition.

April's designee is the family of Liam Melicharek. At only 9 years old, Liam completed his brave battle with Leukemia on Monday, March 9, 2026, at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Liam was a 3rd grader at Tamaqua Elementary and always had a smile on his face. Those that knew Liam always mentioned his infectious positive energy that remained throughout all his trials. Liam also wrestled and played basketball. This collection will be given to Liam's family to use or donate in which way they see fit.

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 Hannah Miller or Nicole Hunsicker. Thank you for your support!

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

On **Sunday, May 24th** during our morning worship, Zane Zeigenfuss and Chase Moyer will celebrate their Rite of Confirmation into our church family. Please plan on attending to welcome them. We will also have The Sacrament of Holy Communion for the congregation.



Graduating Senior Recognition

We are planning our annual tradition at St. Peter's by recognizing the achievements of our graduating seniors on **Sunday, June 7th**.

During morning worship on that day, there will be a time to honor our graduating seniors from high schools, colleges, our preschool, and technical schools. We would like to include highlights of the lives of our graduates and include their accomplishments as well as plans for the future. If you, or someone you know, will be graduating, please notify the church office ASAP (by mail or email). Information to include: Name, Parent(s)/Guardian(s), School, Degree, Recognitions, Clubs/Activities/Hobbies & future plans and a photo. All information is due on **May 25th**. We are also seeking graduates to participate in the worship service. Let us know of your interest.

And, we hope the entire congregation will join in our worship celebration of these incredible young people with whom God has gifted us.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

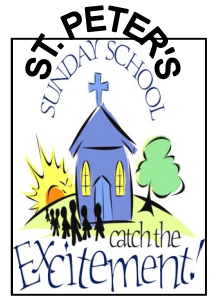
New Members

If you are interested in becoming a member at St. Peter's (or you know someone who is), Please let Pastor Josh or a Board Member know, or call the church office.

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

Sunday School Event

⇒ April 4th ~ Easter Egg Hunt 1:00 PM SHARP! Grab your baskets! The Annual St. Peter's Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt will be held on ***Saturday, April 4th, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. SHARP!*** There will be egg hunt categories and prizes for all ages. Even the adults have an opportunity to join in on the excitement! 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 Hannah Miller or Nicole Hunsicker. Just remember, you can't ask "What would Jesus do?" until you know "What Jesus did and said!"



Retirees

Retirees will meet on ***April 8h*** in Fellowship Hall at 9:30am. There will be food, fun, fellowship, and games. Please contact Sharon Herring if you are interested in participating so she can plan for the meals. If you would like to assist in any way, please let Sharon know. She can be reached at (570) 386-3202 The Retirees are open to anyone, age is not a factor.

They meet the second Wednesday of every month and always welcome new members.

"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

ST. PETER'S | FUNDRAISING FOR BUILDING EXPENSES

The current account balance is \$53,000.00

- The *Kitchen Krew* will be making Filling. Orders are due **Sunday, March 22nd**. Pick up will be **Thursday, April 2nd** at the South Entrance 11:00-1:00. \$8/quart.
Anyone willing to help please leave Charlene Miller know. Charlene 570-386-4267. Orders are being taken by Karen Diehl 570-386-5472 or karend@ptd.net or cell 610-554-1296.
- We need help cutting the bread also on **Monday March 30th** (Please let Karen know if you can help) Time to be determined...but NOT 5AM.. :)

Dear Church Family,

Borrowing words from a hymn ~ "How can I say thanks for all the things you have done for me?"

My heart overflows with gratitude for all the love, grace and support you have given me during my time as Director of Music.

Thanks be to God for His gift of music and the opportunity to come back to St. Peter's to be your organist and choir director, and for His help through every rehearsal and worship service.

Thanks to the Church Board, all the pastors I've worked with, and to Elaine for all their help, grace and inspiration.

Thanks to Lou Ann for always keeping the choir room neat and tidy.

Thanks to Norene for substituting when needed time with my family, and for her unwavering encouragement and support.

Thanks to Michelle for her special music offerings, and for offering to direct the Cherub Choir.

Thanks to all the Cherub, Handbell, and Senior Choir members for filling the sanctuary with your beautiful music.

And now, thanks to all of you ~ the congregation. From children's artwork and chalk drawing on the parking lot, to those who left notes on the organ or piano bench or in the choir room, to those who left flowers or gifts, and to you for your voices joined in beautiful singing, to the heart-warming reception on my last Sunday as Director of Music. You have all made my time at St. Peter's a cherished memory.

*May God bless and keep you always,
Love, Carol*



SPRING GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

Order forms are available on the table in the church parlor. Orders are due on Sunday, April 12th and cards will arrive the first week in May. See Kim Kistler or Laurie Seip for

When life isn't a bed of roses, remember who wore the thorns!

Faith makes things possible, not easy!

Lord, help us be the people our pets think we are.

Prevent *truth* decay, *brush* up on your Bible!

Store the Bible in your heart, not on a shelf.

God loves you whether you like it or not.

I'm also making a list and checking it twice ~ God.



W. A. S. P. News



The next meeting of the Women's Association of St. Peter's will be on **Tuesday, April 21st** at 7:00 PM. Bonnie Myers and Charlotte Miller will provide refreshments.

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.

Save the Date!!

St. Peter's Annual Sunday School
Easter Egg Hunt

will be held on **Saturday, April 4th, 2026**
1:00 PM **SHARP!**

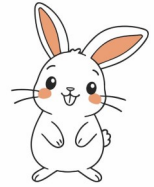


The deadline for the May issue of the "*Cornerstone*" is
Tuesday, April 14th
Deadline for articles/information is always the **2nd Tuesday** of the month.



Springing Into April!

By Barbara Nametko



W

X

9

As the weather warms up, preschool is discovering all the new things April has to offer! In between raindrops this month, we will be heading outside for nature walks. We will explore everything from the new buds on the trees, bugs, birds and hopefully we will get to hear and see some baby calves in the pasture!

Preschool will be having some Easter fun to start off our month! Some of our fun will include an Easter egg hunt, our bunny breakfast, what's in the egg and maybe even a visit from the Easter Bunny.

We will continue to explore nature with a visit from the Carbon County Environmental Center this month. Our friends from the center always bring us awesome animals to learn some cool facts about. Preschool is hoping they bring their snake for another visit!

The letters W,X,Y & Z will be our focus letters this month, along with the number 9, the oval shape and pastel colors.

Preschool will be selling tickets for our annual raffle this month. Tickets are \$10 each and our drawing will take place after graduation on Friday, May 22nd.

If you would like to buy tickets, please see any preschool family, or Mrs. Nametko or Mrs. Houser. Tickets will also be for sale after church.

Happy Spring to everyone and Thank You always for your support!

Y



Z

Say a Prayer for:

Recent

*Loved Ones of
Liam Melicharek
Loved Ones of
Arlen Troxell
Loved Ones of
Veronica Steigerwalt
Loved Ones of
Phyllis Ann Pruett
Crystal Unger
Darryl Moyer
Eileen Moyer
Janet Altenburg
Judy Gerber
Karen Nelson
Larry Chesla
Nancy Domanski
Randy Frey
Russel Miller
Tracie & Scott Clews*

Ongoing

*Austin Klein
Barry Reinert
Beth Pravozino
Betty Breiner
Bonnie Miller
Bruce Miller
Carolyn Lantz
Clyde
Cody Wolfgang
Dale Peterson
Darlene Kunkel
Debbie Mooney
Dennis Oriel
DeRue Kistler*

*Donald Hank Williams
Edna Moyer
Erin Coombe
Erlin Moyer
Gregory Slivka
Harry & Janie Conner
Hope Gramlich
John Tracy
Kenneth Breiner
Leon Kunkel
Linda Garber
Lisa Moyer
Lynn Long
Maggie Wehr
Margarita Santnadelon
Margaret Kern
Mark Wolfe
Marsha Rodgers
Mary Lou McGowan
Nadine
Parker Brode
Paul David
Renee Troutman
Ricky Everett
Rita Yarmell
Ron Hinderliter
Russell Snyder
Scott Middlecamp
Sharon Horning
Sherry Goerner
Sue Hower
Teresa Fowler
Wayne Lazarus*

**Those on Our
Visitation List:**

*Buddy Arner, Jr.
Hazel Arner
Edith Coombe
Robert Coombe
Olga Faust
Barbara Kershner
Wendy Kunkel
Larry Miller
Gary Steigerwalt
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 Germany: Joyce Steigerwalt
Deployed to Saudi Arabia: Ryan Snyder

Our Military ~ Active Not Deployed:

Mark Habel
Dustin Hoppes
LeRoy E. Kromer II
Timothy Kromer
Ezekiel Kuneck
Sean Kurtz
Antonio Lorenzo
Dominic Lorenzo
Amanda Miller
Austin Resch

Tyler Resch
Alexis Scott
Trevor Schilling
Andy Snyder
Ryan Snyder
Alexander Thomas
Chad Wehr
Mark West
Scott West
Michael Zeigenfuss

**If you know of someone to be added or removed from the Prayer List, please contact
Pastor Josh, Chris Miller or the church office.**

THE LEGEND OF THE DOGWOOD

There is a legend, that at the time of the Crucifixion the dogwood had been the size of the oak and other forest trees. So firm and strong was the tree that it was chosen as the timber for the cross. To be used thus for such a cruel purpose greatly distressed the tree, and Jesus, nailed upon it, sensed this, and in His gentle pity for all sorrow and suffering said to it:

"Because of your regret and pity for My suffering, never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used as a cross. Henceforth it shall be slender and bent and twisted and its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross...Two long and two short petals and in the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail prints, brown with rust and stained with red, and in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns, and all who see it will remember."

~Anonymous

Daily Lectionary Readings for April 2026

Wednesday, April 01, 2026: Psalm 70; Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32
Thursday, April 02, 2026: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26;
John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Friday, April 03, 2026: Psalm 22; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42
Saturday, April 04, 2026: Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8; John 19:38-42
Sunday, April 05, 2026: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4 ; John 20:1-18
Sunday Evening, April 05, 2026: Psalm 114; 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; Luke 24:13-49
Monday, April 06, 2026: Psalm 118:1-2,14-24; Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21;
Colossians 3:5-11;
Tuesday, April 07, 2026: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 15:1-18; Colossians 3:12-17;
Wednesday, April 08, 2026: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Joshua 3:1-17; Matthew 28:1-10;
Thursday, April 09, 2026: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 2:8-15; Colossians 4:2-5;
Friday, April 10, 2026: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 5:9-6:3; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11;
Saturday, April 11, 2026: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 8:6-7; John 20:11-20;
Sunday, April 12, 2026: Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31
Monday, April 13, 2026: Psalm 114; Judges 6:36-40; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20;
Tuesday, April 14, 2026: Psalm 114; Jonah 1:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:19-28;
Wednesday, April 15, 2026: Psalm 114; Jonah 2:1-10; Matthew 12:38-42;
Thursday, April 16, 2026: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:1-5; 1 Peter 1:8b-12;
Friday, April 17, 2026: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 26:1-4; 1 Peter 1:13-16;
Saturday, April 18, 2026: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:6-9; Luke 14:12-14;
Sunday, April 19, 2026: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35
Monday, April 20, 2026: Psalm 134; Genesis 18:1-14; 1 Peter 1:23-25;
Tuesday, April 21, 2026: Psalm 134; Proverbs 8:32-9:6; 1 Peter 2:1-3;
Wednesday, April 22, 2026: Psalm 134; Exodus 24:1-11; John 21:1-14;
Thursday, April 23, 2026: Psalm 23; Exodus 2:15b-25; 1 Peter 2:9-12;
Friday, April 24, 2026: Psalm 23; Exodus 3:16-22, 4:18-20; 1 Peter 2:13-17;
Saturday, April 25, 2026: Psalm 23; Ezekiel 34:1-16; Luke 15:1-7;
Sunday, April 26, 2026: Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10
Monday, April 27, 2026: Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:17-23; 1 Peter 5:1-5;
Tuesday, April 28, 2026: Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:23-31; Hebrews 13:20-21;
Wednesday, April 29, 2026: Psalm 100; Jeremiah 23:1-8; Matthew 20:17-28;
Thursday, April 30, 2026: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; Genesis 12:1-3; Acts 6:8-15;



Blessed are those who read and hear the Word of God and keep it.

Tomorrow is never promised. . . .

Today, love a little deeper, kiss a little longer, laugh a little louder and hold the ones you love a little tighter.

~unknown

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

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