St. Peter's Lutheran Church

December 2023 Newsletter

Petersburg, MI 49270

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Website: <u>https://stpeterslutheranchurch.com</u>

Our Mission Statement

To reach out with the WORD and LOVE of JESUS CHRIST to ALL people.

Isaiah 7:14

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

Come Worship With Us



Bible Study 9AM Every Sunday

December 3 Sunday Service 10:30 A.M. Communion

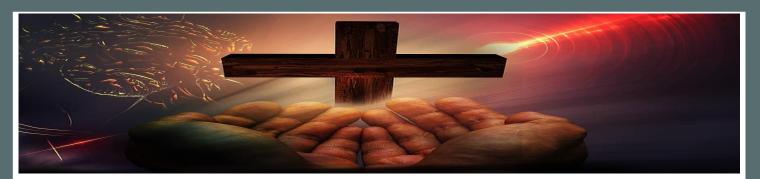
December 10 Sunday Service 10:30 A.M. **December 17** Sunday Service 10:30 A.M. Communion

December 24 Sunday Service 10:30 A.M. Congregational Christmas Program



December 31 Sunday Service 10:30 A.M. Communion





Pastor's Message: Sometimes, It's The Little Things In Life ...

Luke 2:6-7

"While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

Sometimes, it's what appears to be the little things in life, the simple things in life, that can make all the difference in the world.

And speaking of little things, every year when we decorate our Christmas tree, the most important ornament for me actually has proven to be rather precious to me. It's just a little ornament for the Christmas tree, just a simple manger piece for the tree with Joseph and Mary and the Baby Jesus in a manger. Just a piece of plastic really.

But you must understand something else. On the back of this little manger piece is a name and date. The name, "Kenny"; the date, "December, 1955."

I remember when I was three years old I was in Sunday School and my teacher was sharing the true meaning of Christmas. And gave us all a gift. It's just a little thing. But when I opened up the gift it meant so much to me as to what it represented. You see, my Sunday School teacher and my parents explained to me that this Baby Jesus is God's precious gift to the world.

Every year at Christmas, it was this little thing that was so important, and this little ornament was always placed at a prominent place on the Christmas tree to remind our family that Jesus is what life is all about. My parents made sure of that. When I got married, my parents gave me this little manger ornament for our family. And my wife Kim has made sure that this ornament was placed and has been placed and will continue to be placed at a special spot on the Christmas tree to remind us the gift for everyone from God Himself is the Baby Jesus.

It's just a little thing but it can make all the difference in the world.

I'm talking about the little baby. The Baby Jesus in a manger.

In the midst of all the glitz and glamour of our times, beyond the tinsel and bright lights and colors, beyond the uncertainties, and the pandemics of our time, we're left with Jesus.

It's this Baby Jesus, my friends, that invites you to behold Him, the Saviour of the World - your Saviour and my Savior.

It's this Baby Jesus, who was born in a manger, in a feeding trough, who suffered the cruelty of the cross to bring you hope, real hope, forgiveness, real forgiveness, life, real life, eternal life, presence, real presence, to give you meaning and strength amidst all the uncertainties of life, to remove meaninglessness to a life filled with joy beyond all measure.

Behold your King! Invite Him into your hearts this Christmas and see what I mean.

It's just a simple little thing. But this gurgling Baby Jesus - is inviting to have Him in your heart and in your life this Christmas. I don't care if you're 3 years old or 70+ years old. Neither does Jesus.

Have a blessed Christmas ... Behold your King. The Baby Jesus in a manger!

Blessings,

~ Pastor Ken



Special Services for Advent & Christmas

December 6

Soup & Sandwich 6:00 P.M. Advent Service 7:00 P.M.

December 13 Soup & Sandwich 6:00 P.M. Advent Service 7:00 P.M.

December 20 Soup & Sandwich 6:00 P.M. Advent Service 7:00 P.M.

December 24 Congregational Christmas Program 10:30 A.M. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 P.M.

Announcements

On December 10th we will be decorating the church for Christmas after our worship service. Pizza will be provided. Please stay and help if you are able.

Offering envelopes are out for pick-up on the west wing table.

If you would like to be a reader for our congregational Christmas Program please let Betsy Winter know.

If you would like to help with the Altar Guild please talk to Anita Leiter. We still need someone for December. Anita can help you if you have never done it before.

Please continue to pray for our next call to Pastor Len Astrowski.

There is a sign up sheet on the table in the west wing for soup and sandwich meals during Advent.



In our thoughts & prayers ...

Ted Reyome Gary Brockman Judy Straub Blake Mason Derrick Miller Family Karen Supola Dee Golemdiepski Mary White Evan Franz Mary Bruce Pastor Flory Becky Carroll

Our Service Men: Larry Lloyd Jr, John Petcoff, Nicholas Hoover, Blake Mason, Noah Johnson, Ben Jensen, Jeff Keller, Tyler Dickerson



December Birthdays

Jason Winter Melissa Perkins Christopher Chmura Joanne MacDonald Amy Stahl Holly Thompson

Fellowship Hall Available



The Fellowship Hall is available to rent for graduation parties, family reunions, showers, etc. Contact Eudora Judit at 734-270-2229.



Thank you to Pastor Huner for being our Vacancy Pastor - He is doing a GREAT JOB!

Refreshments List for December 2023

Each family is asked to please furnish 2 dozen cookies or some refreshment. Coffee pots will be ready to be plugged in. Please set up cups and napkins ahead of time, and clean up when everyone is done.

December 10 - Andy Stahl, Nancy Hunter, Jeannine Petcoff, Julaynne

MacDonald

December 24 - No refreshments Christmas Eve

Servants of The Lord

Altar Guild

December - TBD

Pastor	Vacancy Pastor: Pastor Huner				
Secretary	Eudora Judit				
Organist	Anita Leiter & Mary Tomell				
Fellowship Hall Rental	Eudora Judit: 734-279-2229 Church: 734-279-1949				
Church Council					
President	Tom Stahl: 517-403-2601				
Vice President	Bill Saylor: 734-279-1117				
Secretary	Carrie Dickerson: 734-755-7405				
Treasurer	Paul Harnica: 734-735-7271				
Financial Secretary	Andy Stahl: 517-447-3852				
Trustees	Kyle Harnica: 419-345-7786 Betsy Winter: 419-290-4066 Dennis Miller: 734-279-2485				
Elders					
Tom Stahl 517-447-3246	Jim Waterstradt 734-279-2065	Bill Saylor 734-279-1117	Tyler Dickerson 734-755-7405		
Tom Preston 734-646-4612					



What is going on this month?

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Bible Study 9:00AM Worship service with communion 10:30AM	4	5	6 Soup & Sandwich 6:00PM Advent Service 7:00PM	7	8	9
10 Bible Study 9:00AM Worship service 10:30AM Decorate Church	11	12 Elders Meeting 7:00PM	13 Soup & Sandwich 6:00PM Advent Service 7:00PM	14	15	16
17 Bible Study 9:00AM Worship service with communion 10:30AM	18	19 Council Meeting 7:00PM	20 Soup & Sandwich 6:00PM Advent Service 7:00PM	21	22	23
24 Bible Study 9:00AM Worship service 10:30AM Candlelight service 7:00PM	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Bible Study 9:00AM Worship service with						,

Worship service with communion 10:30AM

Date	Lector	Communion	Acolyte	Altar Flowers
3	Jim Waterstradt	Jim Waterstradt	Ben Winter	Memory of Helen Babcock
10	Tom Stahl		Ben Winter	
17	Tom Preston	Tom Stahl		
24	Jim Waterstradt		Ben Winter	
31	Tom Preston	Tom Preston	Ben Winter	

Go in peace and serve The Lord!