

St. Peter Lutheran Church

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DELPHOS, OHIO 45833

The Mission of St. Peter Lutheran Church is to grow our faith in Jesus as we journey together and serve others.

October Newsletter Deadline: Monday, September 21st

The Messenger



First day of Autumn 2026 is Tuesday, September 22nd

The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – September 2026

A Little Bit of This and That for September ...

This weekend, I began to attack the flower garden at the lower level of my home. Seven summers ago, I created this beautiful area with knockout rose bushes and many other perennials. For five of the last seven years, it was gorgeous, but over the last two years, due to surgeries and other health issues I have not paid any attention to this flower bed.

By this summer it has become overrun with grass and weeds. I have grown to hate the morning glory vine that seems to wrap itself around so many of my rose bushes and plants. The bed is in total disarray to the point that I need to almost dig everything out and start over.

So, on Saturday I began to attack the bed with gusto. I waged war on the morning glory and soon mounds of it, and the other weeds began to appear in piles beside the flower bed. Yesterday, I began to dig up several of the rose bushes and what a battle I had to dig down deep enough to pull the bushes out – the roots run deep. My lower back is a little sore this morning due to the exertion I needed to exert to get those stubborn roots up and out.

As I have been pondering the condition of the flower bed, it makes a good metaphor for what happens in our lives if we do not address areas in our lives that need the attention of God' love at work to address areas where sin, hurt and pain still linger.

Our journey of faith in Jesus is really to be a journey of transformation but if we never allow the work of the Holy Spirit to help us address the wounds and sin that keeps us in bondage, our inner emotional life and heart can begin to look a little like my flower bed that was left unattended.

So, how do we address those areas in our lives to allow the Holy Spirit to bring restoration and joy? One of the most important ways is to turn our lives over to Jesus and the work of the Holy Spirit. Making an actual commitment to journey in faith in Jesus is key. Then getting connected in Christian community is critical. Most of my spiritual growth has occurred through small group interaction as I have studied God's word and as I connected with people on the healing care journey. We are not meant to journey in faith alone, but each of us has gifts to bring to the table in the ministry of the church. Growing our faith together is an important call of God in our lives.

If you are young and just starting your career, it is easy to get pulled away from being involved in a small group to grow your faith. If you are in the midst of raising a family, it is easy to get pulled away. If you are older and involved in many other activities, it is easy to get pulled away.

If you are interested in enriching your life and keeping the weeds out, so you can have a more vibrant faith life, I invite you to talk to me about small group Bible Study and or a home share group to grow your faith.

I would love to see several different types of small groups develop to meet the needs of our age groups. Won't you consider being a part of a small group to enrich your faith life and to enhance your overall life. Let's journey together in faith.

May God bless each of you as you tend your garden of faith!

Blessings,

Pastor Carol

Monthly Finances:

Month: July 2026	Month	Month	YTD	YTD
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	2026	2025	2026	2025
Total Pastor	\$ 10,297.27	\$ 6,813.28	\$ 53,175.64	\$ 48,123.67
Total Worship	\$ 2,083.54	\$ 1,562.70	\$ 8,281.90	\$ 7,381.68
Total Teaching			\$ 425.00	
Total Office	\$ 1,975.95	\$ 1,268.15	\$ 9,987.16	\$ 9,094.32
Total Maintenance	\$ 573.45	\$ 447.57	\$ 17,476.60	\$ 7,670.75
Total Utilities	\$ 712.50	\$ 591.07	\$ 7,698.00	\$ 7,690.26
Total Insurance & Taxes	\$ 395.25	\$ 355.68	\$ 5,230.33	\$ 4,884.34
Total Other				
Subtotal Expenditures	\$ 16,037.96	\$ 11,038.45	\$ 102,274.63	\$ 84,845.02
Total Benevolence		\$ 395.93	\$ 4,089.00	\$ 2,408.76
Total Secondary Acct	\$ 1,754.00	\$ 99.59	\$ 4,709.22	\$ 23,874.36
Total Payments	\$ 17,791.96	\$ 11,533.97	\$ 111,072.85	\$ 111,128.14
Total Receipts	\$ 10,389.26	\$ 13,297.21	\$ 135,258.11	\$ 106,209.63
Total Payments	\$ 17,791.96	\$ 11,533.97	\$ 111,072.85	\$ 111,599.14
Excess or Deficit	\$ (7,402.70)	\$ 1,763.24	\$ 24,185.26	\$ (5,389.51)
Beginning Cash	\$ 31,587.96	\$ (6,805.90)		
Add Receipts	\$ 10,389.26	\$ 13,297.21		
Less Payments	\$ 17,791.96	\$ 11,533.97		
Ending Cash	\$ 24,185.26	\$ (5,389.51)		
Note: Primerica investment for \$35,138.38 was cashed in for church door replacement on June 16, 2026.				

Vanco is a resource we have for giving electronically to the mission and operation of St. Peter. There is a link on our website and on our Facebook page: It is a great way to set up your giving when you will be away or just wanting to give electronically. We are all called to live into generosity in our giving and if this link would be helpful to you, please try it out. <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z8NS/home>

The 2026 flower chart is posted in the hallway for anyone wanting to sign up for flowers on the altar for a specific Sunday.

The 2026 Radio Ministry sign up sheet is posted at the back of church in the red binder. A Sunday service is \$60. If you sign up, please let Lauren know who you would like the radio ministry to be given in honor, celebration, or memory of. *Thank you for helping to be an important part of our church's ministry!*

Reminder: The worship services will be at 10:00 AM starting on Sunday, September 13th.

Upcoming events at St. Peter Lutheran Church!



Adult Sunday School, which includes high school students, will kick off on Sunday, September 13th at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall. Dave will again show a video and then there is opportunity for discussion.

Youth Sunday School for Preschool (potty trained) – 8th grade will kick off on Sunday, October 4th at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall. Bring a friend and plan to have fun while you learn about God.

Young Adults (Ages 16-30): You are invited to come to 9:00 AM breakfast at Jim's Restaurant the second Saturday of each month. This is a time to touch base and support each other in a small group time while enjoying the wonderful breakfast at Jim's. Going to Millie's for wings is also an option if the evening works better for some of you.

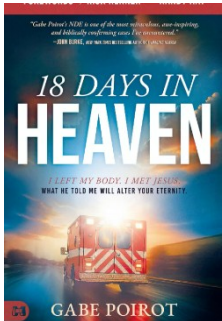
Catechism News: Catechism will be held once a month again, beginning in October. We plan to meet from 1:00-3:00pm. We meet on October 25, November 22, and December 6. The dates will be given for January through May at later time.

This shortened format works well if a parent or grandparent attends with the student. They are then able to reinforce concepts taught. It is also helpful if each child and parent bring their Bible to class. Students and parents will be asked to read at least one of the Gospels during the year.

This year, we will be focusing on who Jesus is as well as reviewing important concepts on the sacraments and The Ten Commandments.

Bible Study Opportunities: We will finish up *The Way of Love* Bible Study on August 31st.

Pastor Carol is inviting you to consider joining a new Bible Study focusing on the book, 18 Days in Heaven by Gabe Poirot. The book can be purchased on Amazon. This study will begin on Tuesday, October 20th, and we will meet on Tuesdays at 7:00-8:30 for five weeks.



Gabe shares many scripture references in recounting his experience of meeting Jesus in heaven. This book should lend itself to a rich scripture study as well as the opportunity to discuss his experience in heaven.

We will also continue to invite you to attend the **Saturday morning Coffee Cup** Bible Study that uses the Serendipity Bible to study various books of the Bible. This study time begins at 9:30am and runs until 11:00am. It will again meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays beginning September 19.



Mark your calendars for our Fall Fellowship Potluck on Sunday, September 27th after church. Main dishes, sides, and desserts are welcome.



Quilts: Kathy Stemen is organizing a two-day quilt making workshop to finish quilts to get them ready to send off to Lutheran World Relief. Come for a few hours or for one or both days to enjoy the fellowship and rich reward of making the quilts for a great cause. The days are September 11th and 12th from 9:00am - 2:00pm. Kathy will provide a meat and cheese try and others are welcome to supplement that. You do not need to know how to sew to be helpful. Come and enjoy the fellowship!

Pork Loin Dinner: Reminder that the church service will be at 9:00 AM on Sunday, October 11th



It is that time of the year again for our 16th annual pork loin dinner which will be held on Sunday, October 11th this year. Please note it is the 2nd Sunday of October this year. With your donations and help, preparations, and serving this dinner is becoming a well oiled machine. Last year, we raised over \$7000.00 for the church! Tickets are available and being distrusted. Please return money for sold tickets by Sunday, September 27th. We look forward to your help in achieving our goals!



Mark your calendars for the Fall Paint & Praise

This will be held on Tuesday, September 15th at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall. There will be a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board.

Property Update:

1. Check out the new patio behind the kitchen.
2. Moeller Door will be installing new front sanctuary doors beginning the week of August 31st. They will also be installing handicap accessible electronic push buttons to open the glass doors by the handicapped accessible ramp out front. The wooden doors will then open to allow easier access into the building for larger wheelchairs.
The parish hall side door will also be replaced as it is showing its age.
3. A new railing has been installed on the steps to the right of the glass doors as you exit the building.
4. A new center-railing that can be removed for funerals will be installed for safety purposes on the steps leading up to the sanctuary doors.

General Announcements

Radio Ministry was given to the glory of God in August by:

- The members of St. Peter Lutheran Church
- Dan and Sue Rode in celebration of their 45th Wedding Anniversary
- Dave Stemen in memory of Connie Stemen

Flowers on the altar were given to the glory of God in August by:

- Dan and Sue Rode in celebration of their 45th Wedding Anniversary

WELCA School Kits

Thank you for all your generous donations to this program!



Upcoming Meetings:

WELCA Meeting will be September 14th at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall

Council Meeting will be Sunday, September 20th after church

GRIEFSHARE A Grief Support Group

Come join us! Our support group offers help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. In our GriefShare group you will find understanding, guidance, relief and a safe place to navigate the challenges of grief that is open to all adults in our area.

Our next session begins on Tuesday evening, September 8, 2026 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Delphos St. John Ministry Center, located at 201 N. Pierce Street in Delphos.

Registration can be completed at the GriefShare website at www.griefshare.org OR by contacting Kathy Ulm, program coordinator, at 419-516-3994 or Delphos St. John The Evangelist Ministry Center at 419-695-4050.

InReach/OutReach

Prayer Chain – If you would like your name added to the prayer chain, please contact Susan McGue at 419-234-6448. If you ever need a prayer chain started, please contact Susan on the cell phone number listed above. *Do NOT send her computer an email.* You may call or send her cell phone a text message. Susan is the primary start person and if she can't be reached by phone, then call the church office. Please have permission from the person or family before we publish any names.

Keep our shut-ins and military friends and families in your prayers.

Shut-ins

Sharon Reel - Vancrest of Van Wert
Norma Koenig - Vancrest of Delphos
Rose Hager- Vancrest of Delphos

Military:

Fred Hasting	Navy	Stateside
Christian Jarman	Air Force	Stateside



Birthdays of the Month of September!

*If we do not have your
birthday listed, please contact
Lauren to get your name on
the list to recognize your
special day.*

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1) Alan Trentman | 20) Rob Wortman |
| 6) Sharon Reel | 23) Kayla Kruse |
| 7) Fred Hasting | 27) Susan McGue |
| 7) Lindsay Lane | 28) Laurie Warnecke |
| 7) Dan Staples | 28) Caleb Trentman |
| 8) Gunnar Noftz | 30) Linda Downey |
| 12) Robert Wortman | |
| 16) Ed Fritz | |
| 16) Allyson Siefker | |

4th Annual Women's Retreat to be held at Pastor Carol's Home:

Date: Saturday, October 24th

Time: Arrive between 9:00 – 9:30 AM and end around 3:00 PM

Bring: something of your choosing to share for lunch

Last year, several people met in the parking lot at St. Peter at 8:15 to carpool. This is a fun day for fellowship, some study with Becky Walker, and a little time to do some crafts or sit and talk and fellowship with one another.

SERVICE	TIME	MONEY COUNTERS	ALTAR GUILD	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHER
Sunday, Sept. 6	9:00 AM	Sue Kloeppel Lois Ewing	Karen Hartman Rhonda Blockberger	Olivia Rode	Jenny Snipes	Dan Kramer
Sunday, Sept. 13	10:00 AM	Deb Trentman Dan Marlow	Karen Hartman Rhonda Blockberger	Alayna Beverly	Dave Stemen	Dan Kramer
Sunday, Sept. 20	10:00 AM	Ryan Trentman Lois Ewing	Karen Hartman Rhonda Blockberger	Austin Munshower	Matt Weitzel	Sam Hasting
Sunday, Sept. 27	10:00 AM	Deb Trentman Lynn Miller	Karen Hartman Rhonda Blockberger	Wyatt Kimmet	Kathy Stemen	Larry Miller
Sunday, Oct. 4	10:00 AM	Sue Kloeppel Lois Ewing	Sue Kloeppel Rhonda Blockberger	Olivia Rode	Jenny Snipes	Matt Weitzel
Sunday, Oct. 11	9:00 AM	Dan Marlow Alan Trentman	Sue Kloeppel Rhonda Blockberger	Roy Trentman	Dave Stemen	Alan Trentman

If there is a date that doesn't work for you, please let Lauren know and she will help find someone else to fill in for you. Thank you!

**Reminder: Sunday Worship services resume at 10:00 AM on Sunday, September 13th
On Sunday, October 11th – Worship at 9:00 AM due to Pork Loin Dinner**

Volunteers are needed to be ushers, greeters and communion assistants.

We need some greeters to welcome people to church. Sometimes the hardest thing someone does is walk through the doors of a new church. Having a greeter is so helpful to let them know where things are and to make them feel welcome.

Also, it is important for our members to be welcomed. Would you consider being a greeter?

Ushers help pass out bulletins and help with the offering. They also have an important role in welcoming others to worship. Would you consider being an usher?

Being a communion assistant is a special job to bless people with the blood of Christ during communion. It is humbling and yet very rewarding. Would you consider being a communion assistant?

If you are willing to volunteer your gift of love and care to do any of these roles on Sunday morning, please let Lauren or me know so we can get you on the schedule. If a date you are unavailable, please let Lauren know and she will help find a replacement for you. Thank you all for your help!





MORGAN ANSPACH

Cru at Ohio University

SUM
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Looking to Campus!

Nearly 4500 freshmen will step foot on our campus this fall. Some students are feeling anxious and worried, while others are excited and eager to begin their new journey in college. Our Cru team is focused on reaching each of these students even in the first week and bringing them into Christ-centered missional community.

My freshman year, I felt many of these emotions and was consumed with overwhelm and anxiety trying to figure out a new place with new people. Before classes even started, my roommate and I went to Cru's ice cream social to hopefully make a few friends. Here we met Taylor and Riley, two juniors involved in Cru's student leadership. We instantly clicked and they took us under their wing to provide comfort in a season of so many new things. All year they invited us to their apartment, took us to church, and poured into us spiritually. I thank God for their friendship and comfort to bring me into this community.

Please pray that our staff and student leaders would be bold in this hospitality and to bring more students in to experience God's love through His people!

Contact: Morgan Anspach

30 Joneswood Drive, Athens, OH 45701

419.203.7924 - morgan.anspach@cru.org

Dear friends and partners,

I am so thrilled to share with you that I reached full financial support and have reported to Athens to begin my ministry with Cru at Ohio University.

I want to thank you for your prayers, your generosity, and your heart to reach college students with the gospel.

Not only have I raised my necessary support, but through your generosity I was able to support another intern with nearly 20% of her goal for this year!

A picture from my freshman year fall retreat! From L to R: Adah (my roommate), me, Riley, Taylor.



Praises and Prayer Requests

1. Praise God for His provision this summer for every intern on my campus to report.
2. Pray for students at Ohio University as they begin their semester.
3. Pray for our staff and leadership team to reach the freshmen on our campus with the gospel!

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Worship Service 7:00 PM	3	4	5
6 Worship 9 AM	7 	8	9 Worship Service 7:00 PM	10	11 Quilts 9:00-2:00	12 Jim's Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilts 9:00-2:00
13 Worship 10 AM Adult Sunday School starts 9:00 AM	14 WELCA Mtg 6:00 PM	15 Paint & Praise 6:00 PM	16	17	18	19 Coffee Cup Bible Study 9:30-11:00
20 Worship 10 AM Council Mtg after church Adult Sun. School 9:00 AM	21	22 	23	24	25	26 Women's Retreat 9:00 – 3:00
27 Worship 10 AM Adult SS 9 AM Potluck after church	28	29	30	*Youth Sunday School starts on Sunday, October 4th at 9:00 AM		

The Ten Commandments Found in Exodus 20

1. OD NOT TSAEL _____
2. EHAV NO RETHO SGOD RFEEOB OYU _____
3. DO ONT ABRE AELSF NWITSES _____
4. OD NOT TMOCMI YATLRUD _____
5. ROHON YUOR AFHERT NDA ROHMET _____
6. MEERREMB EHT HTSAABB _____
7. EPEK THE HABSATB HOLY _____
8. OD ONT EMAK ILSDO _____
9. OD NTO SMISEU GS'OD NMAE _____
10. DO TON ICTOMM EMUDRR _____
11. OD OTN ECOVT H'OSERT GSINHT _____