

**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.*

**May Newsletter Deadline: Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**

# The Messenger



# The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – April 2025

## A Little Bit of This and That for April 2025...

As I write this, there is hope that Spring is on the way. I can feel how people are so happy to have the sunshine, blue skies, and warmth. Living in Ohio allows us the joy of welcoming the seasons.

As Christians, we also welcome different seasons of the church year. On March 5<sup>th</sup> we moved into the season of Lent and we will end this April in the season of Easter. Easter and the hope of the resurrection makes all the difference in our faith journey.

Jesus, emptied himself to come and live among us and show us the Father's love. This love is a deep, all-encompassing love that we can only get a small glimpse of. This love is all about a God who wants to be in relationship with us. Lent gives us an opportunity to go deeper on our journey with God. The season of Easter helps us to focus our time to celebrate Jesus' ability to endure the cross, rise from the dead, conquer death, and win the battle against the evil one. This is huge and without this work of Jesus we would have nothing to celebrate. Because of Jesus' journey to the cross and his resurrection we can place our faith in him to journey with us in all of life—the good times and the hard times. We can celebrate that we have not been left as orphans but are beloved children of God. As a result, we can choose to live our lives in gratitude and give God praise each and every day of our lives. As we move through this season of Lent and into the Easter season, I invite you to be intentional to practice gratitude. Carve out a time in the day to take note of the blessings that have come your way. Give God praise and rest in the knowledge that you are loved by the master of the universe and that there is nothing that can separate you from God's love for you.

Much of our stress and anxiety comes from ruminating thoughts that we are not enough. If we can begin to truly understand how much God loves us, it becomes easier to trust God with our lives. Giving God praise and gratitude takes our minds off of what bothers us and makes room for God to speak life into us. As we see God at work in our midst, we become even more grateful. This is a part of cultivating a living faith and this makes the journey so much more exciting!

So, this for the rest of this Lenten season and into Easter, let's look for God at work in our midst and be grateful. May we know deep down in our core that we have a loving Father who knew us before we were born, who called us into life and who loves us more than we can even imagine.

Blessings to all of you. I am grateful for you and the opportunity to serve as your Pastor.

Love,  
Pastor Carol

### Thank you from Pastor Carol:

Thank you for all of the ways that you came together as a church body to serve the families of Connie Stemen and John Sanders for their recent Celebration of Life services. I am just so grateful for all of you who sent food, cooked, and managed the meal, set-up for the dinners, ushered, served as an acolyte, parked cars, provided music, and helped out in so many ways. This was ministry in action and it warmed my heart to see everyone working so well together. You are an amazing group of people.

## Important Notice: Your feedback is important!

We have been aware that many of you are not getting *The Messenger* in a timely manner. Lauren and I have been trying to mail it around the 20th of each month but many of you are not getting yours for up to 3 and even 4 weeks later. Therefore, we are trying to determine if we need to change how you get your copy of *The Messenger* and we need your feedback.

We are wondering about having copies of *The Messenger* at the back of the church for people to pick up and to mail copies to those who desire a printed copy, as well as to email the copy to you each month. *The Messenger* will also be available on our website at [www.stpeterdelphos.org](http://www.stpeterdelphos.org)

Would you be open to getting a copy emailed to you? Those who want a printed copy can pick that up at the back of the sanctuary. We would still mail a copy to those of you who live out of town who do not have internet access or who request that it be mailed to you.

You can text Pastor Carol at 419-512-4490 or email your response to Lauren at [stpeterdelphos@gmail.com](mailto:stpeterdelphos@gmail.com) or to Pastor Carol at [stpetercarolp@gmail.com](mailto:stpetercarolp@gmail.com).



The office is currently working on updating the Church Directory and we need your help! There will be a clipboard at the back of church for the next few Sundays, please take a look at your name and make sure everything is up to date and if everything looks good, place a check mark next to your name so we know you have had a chance to look it over. You can also email Lauren [stpeterdelphos@gmail.com](mailto:stpeterdelphos@gmail.com) if you need to make any changes to the directory.

We are wanting to get this updated & printed so they can be picked up at the back of the church on Easter Sunday. Thank you for your help!

## Upcoming Worship Services:



Wednesdays at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall for Lenten soup suppers and services. Soup will be provided from 6:15-6:45 PM, with worship starting at 7:00 PM. These Wednesday evenings will be more informal with opportunities to look at the scriptures together. This year we are inviting a family to sign up for a Wednesday night to either bring a soup or dessert to share for that evening service. The sign up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall on the bulletin board.

*Palm Sunday* – Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> | 10:00 AM

*Maundy Thursday* – Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> | 7:00 PM

*Good Friday* – Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> | 7:00 PM

*Easter Sunday* – Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

Sunrise Easter Service 7:30 PM, Fellowship Breakfast 8:30 AM, Easter Sunday Service 10:00 AM

### Holy Week Community Sing

#### Concert for April 13:

The Delphos Ministerium is sponsoring a special evening of music for our area churches. We will sing hymns, listen to scripture, hear a few solos, and listen to the amazing piano playing of Jackson David Baillie. We will sit at round tables and have a dessert while enjoying this special time to come together on the evening of Palm Sunday at 6:00PM at the Delphos Trinity Family Life Center on 702 Ambrose Drive. *If any of you are willing to bring a dessert to help out, please let Pastor Carol know.*



### First Communion Class:

April 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-12:00 in the Parish Hall

For those nine years or older accompanied by a parent.

We will learn about the original Passover and learn about Jesus' command to take communion. We will also make communion bread.

**First Communion will be on Palm Sunday (April 13) this year.**

# 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

## Military:

Fred Hasting	Navy	Stateside
Christian Jarman	Air Force	Stateside

## IROR News:

**APRIL Charity:** Crossroads Crisis Center- Their mission is to enhance safety for survivors of Domestic Violence and their children by educating, advocating, and empowering individuals. Through their leadership and expertise they strive to engage our communities in promoting no tolerance of domestic violence. They have been serving in Allen county since 1980.

We are asking for **GIFT CARDS** that provide essential needs, food or gas. These can be from Walmart, Meijer, Dollar General, Ruler Foods, Chief or gas stations, in any dollar amount. Make sure the dollar amount is indicated on the card.

\*Your gift card donation CAN be recorded on your annual giving statement here at St Peter. Put the card in an envelope with your NAME and labeled "Monthly Charity" and place it in the regular offering collection (your name is not provided to the charity or recipient). Look for envelopes at the end of the pews.

# General Announcements

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

- Ed Fritz in memory of Jacquie Fritz
- Ron and Sue Kloeppel and family in memory of Melvin and Alma Kloeppel
- The members of St. Peter Lutheran Church

**Flowers on the altar** were given to glory of God with love by Lynn and Yvonne Koenig in celebration of their granddaughters', Harper's 5<sup>th</sup> and Carly's 1<sup>st</sup> birthdays.

## Monthly Finance Report:

### CHURCH NEWS:

#### **The 2025 Radio Ministry**

The sign up sheet is at the back of church to sign up for the 2025 church year. The cost per week to broadcast on the radio is \$60.00.

**The 2025 flower chart** is also posted in the hallway for anyone wanting to sign up for flowers on the altar for a specific Sunday.

It is very easy to use our Vanco (Tithley link) to set up payment for the service or you may write a check too. You can follow the link listed below to securely submit a payment for *radio ministry*. You will still need to call or email Lauren to let her know which service you are sponsoring as well as to let her know the wording you would like in the bulletin. You may also sign up in the red notebook at the back of the sanctuary. <http://www.stpeterdelphos.org/giving-2/>  
Thank you for supporting this very important ministry.

**Thrivent News:** For those of you who have investments or life insurance policies through Thrivent, there may be opportunities for you to direct Choice Dollars to our church by logging onto your account at [www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice) . If you have funds available, they allow you to choose an organization for which to designate.

**The next WELCA meeting** will be on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

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

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1) Cindy Weitzel   | 15) Nick Fitch       |
| 2) Barb Shafer     | 18) Charlotte Koebel |
| 2) Vicki Kramer    | 22) Virginia Klenz   |
| 3) Doug Fitch      | 23) Kayleigh Rode    |
| 3) Robert Kloeppel | 28) Laura Peters     |
| 3) Samantha Rode   |                      |
| 7) Lynn Koenig     |                      |
| 14) Matt Calvelage |                      |

