

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.

January Newsletter Deadline: Friday, December 19th



The Messenger



Christmas Eve Service: Wednesday, December 24th | 4:00 PM

The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – December 2025

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

Way back in 2007, I spent a year teaching first grade. I look back on that year with amazement that I got through it for it was a whole different way of teaching from what I experienced as a seventh and eight grade language arts teacher. When I refer to that year, I often hear myself saying that I had the gift of being able to see the world through first graders' eyes.

Those eyes of my first graders were full of wonder. Every season of the year that we celebrated was a big deal. I got to hear them get excited about what they were going to be for Halloween. I, especially heard lots of excitement about the coming of Christmas. There was this sense of wonder, especially when they thought about Santa and what he might bring them. There was certainly energy and excitement in the air.

As we enter into the season of Advent, I wonder if we might take time to try to rekindle the "wonder" of God emptying himself to become a helpless baby given to the care of a young mother named Mary and her husband Joseph. To think that Jesus had the power to reign with God the Father and the Holy Spirit at the beginning of time and yet he accepted this seemingly crazy mission to come into our midst to grow up as he experienced being fully human and fully God. He emptied himself for you and for me to experience humanity. He gave us a glimpse of the what God is truly like... a God of relationship that created us to love him and love others. He was baptized and received the power of the Holy Spirit to enable him to stay in close contact with his Father's wishes. He often commented that he only did what he saw his father doing.

Yes, we marvel and wonder at the beautiful outdoor lights, the Christmas trees, and the homes that are decorated to the max for the season, but do we truly take time to ponder and be filled with wonder at what it cost Jesus to come to us in the form of a tiny baby? Do we wonder that the Word who was with God in the beginning of the creation of the world and allowed the world to be created through him, willingly came to show us love? What an amazing gift!

This season, I invite you to be filled with wonder!

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!

Love,
Pastor Carol



Monthly Finance Reports:

		OCTOBER			
St. Peter Lutheran Church Delphos, Ohio		MONTH	MONTH	YTD	YTD
		ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
		2025	2024	2025	2024
1	TOTAL PASTOR	6,587.59	5,838.72	69,812.21	63,848.19
2	TOTAL WORSHIP	1,418.41	1,142.57	11,050.23	10,791.79
3	TOTAL CONVENTIONS				
4	TOTAL TEACHING				475.00
5	TOTAL OFFICE	1,278.07	755.79	12,933.43	12,622.21
6	TOTAL MAINTENANCE	1,313.34	2,704.54	10,030.53	32,027.72
7	TOTAL UTILITIES	975.72	743.80	10,105.32	7,790.02
8	TOTAL INS & TAXES	402.08	367.31	7,295.47	6,655.54
9	TOTAL OTHER				
	SUB TOT-EXPENDITURE	11,954.90	11,552.53	121,227.19	134,208.47
10	TOTAL BENEVOLENCE		511.52	3,056.82	7,945.63
	TOTAL SECONDARY ACCT	9,242.78	3,517.81	34,324.98	12,566.94
	TOTAL PAYMENTS	21,197.99	15,581.88	158,608.99	154,721.04
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	28,139.14	21,336.38	155,788.86	139,440.61
	TRANSFER - IN				
	TOTAL PAYMENTS	21,197.99	15,581.88	158,608.99	154,721.04
	EXCESS or DEFICIT	6,941.15	5,754.52	-2,820.33	-15,280.43
	BEGINNING CASH	-9,761.48	-21,034.95		
	ADD RECEIPTS	28,139.14	21,336.38		
	LESS PAYMENTS	21,197.99	15,581.86		
	ENDING CASH	-2,820.33	-15,280.43		

Annual Congregational meeting on Sunday, December 14th to vote on council members and the 2026 General Church budget.

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>

Upcoming events at St. Peter Lutheran Church!



Sunday School in the Parish Hall held every Sunday at 9:00 AM.

Everyone ages 3 & potty trained through adults are welcome to attend.

Children's Sunday School Choir will be singing during the Dec. 14th Worship Service.

Catechism Class



Catechism from 1:00-3:00 on Sunday, December 14th. This month the students and their parent will meet at 1:00 to study the Lord's Prayer. Then around 2:00 the group is asked to go caroling with the community to several homes and to Vancrest and The Meadows. This will serve as a service project.



Anxiety & Depression Workshop:

If you're looking for tools to help you overcome anxiety and depression that often plagues us with all the demands of life, you are invited to sign up for an overcoming anxiety workshop. This will be on Tuesdays starting on January 6th through February 17th. This is open to church members as well as your friends and community members.



Altar Guild is starting to prepare for Christmas and will be beautifying the altar with Christmas poinsettias. They will be red and cost \$7.50 each. Envelopes are on the tables in back of the church or you can contact Angie Miller 419-234-2115 to place your order by December 7. Please help us celebrate and remember the real meaning of Christmas.

WELCA

The WELCA Board would like to thank you for all the donations of eggs, flour, and time helping us to make our noodles for everyone. It is a lot of fun and fellowship with everyone.

- WELCA Board Members

Also, we will be doing the Christmas Card Tree as in years past! You are invited to send a card and donation. The card will be placed on the tree to say Merry Christmas to all. This year all of the donations will be given to a local charity in need.

IROR will be meeting on Sunday, December 21st after church

Council meeting after church on Sunday, December 14th

Community News:

Last year with your support and the support of various clubs, organizations and toy drives, we were able to provide 196 children with happy memories on Christmas morning and over 227 fruit plates to our elderly and shut ins. Thank you for your support! We hope we can continue to count on you this year. If you know of anyone who could use a little help this Christmas, please let us know. Send those names, with a short note, to Delphos Community Christmas Project, PO Box 283, Delphos, Ohio 45833. If you choose to contribute to us this year, there are Angel Tree Cards at the local banks and other businesses throughout the city. There are also various toy drives you can contribute to. If you choose to make a monetary donation, your tax deductible donation can be mailed to the PO Box address above. Thank you for your support. We wish you all a Merry Christmas!

- The 2025 Delphos Community Christmas Project Committee

The Delphos Community Christmas Program will be held at St. John's on Monday, December 1st.

All are invited to attend for a night filled with Christmas joy and music.

Community Caroling Opportunity to bring Christmas Cheer: Bob Ulm has invited us to join other members in the community to go caroling to those who are unable to get out this winter in order to bring some holiday cheer. Meet at Bob's house (505 West Second Street) on Sunday, December 14th with a time to be determined for a little warm up and then you will carpool to various homes and nursing homes to sing. There will be sheets with words to the most popular Christmas songs in case you've forgotten some of the words. Pastor Carol can give you more details if you are interested. Children and adults are welcome to participate.

General Announcements

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

- Dave Stemen in memory of Connie Stemen
- Ed Fritz in memory of Jacquie Fritz
- Members of St. Peter Lutheran Church

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

- Dave Stemen in memory of Connie Stemen

The flower chart sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please sign up for that special occasion or celebration. Let the office know what you would like printed in the bulletin.

Church Opportunities:

The mission of St. Peter Lutheran Church is to grow our faith in Jesus as we journey together and serve others. With that being said, there are a variety of ways to become active and serve the Lord.

A new opportunity to serve is to be a **greeter** before church. Arrive early and stand at the door to welcome everyone as they enter the sanctuary.

We are also in need to have a few more volunteers to **count the offering** after church on Sundays.

Usher, Communion Assistant, and Church Readers are also needed for Sunday services.

If interested in helping out in any of the above opportunities, please let Lauren know by talking to her or emailing the church office at stpeterdelphos@gmail.com. Our hope is that you will prayerfully consider signing up.

The gifts He gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

—Ephesians 4:11–12

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

2026 Offering Envelopes are ready to be picked up at the back of church. Thank you for supporting St. Peter Lutheran Church.



- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) Sheri Swick | 20) Leonard Prine Jr. |
| 3) Alexa Marlow | 21) Kyrstin Skym |
| 4) Angie Miller | 26) Sue Vasquez |
| 12) Corey Kloepfel | 26) Mike Finn |
| 13) Patti Calvert | 28) Elaine Wiechart |
| 15) Noelle Prine | 29) Troy Kloepfel |
| 16) Dan Marlow | |
| 17) Jonathan Finn | |
| 18) Cathy Wreede | |
| 20) Martina Himmeger | |

SERVICE	TIME	MONEY COUNTERS	ALTAR GUILD	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHER	GREETERS
Sunday, Dec. 7	10:00 AM	Lois Ewing Barb Krueckeberg	Angie Miller Sarah Miller Donna Berger	Roy Trentman	Kathy Stemen	Eric Fritz	Ally Hasting Jim Hasting
Sunday, Dec. 14	10:00 AM	Yvonne Koenig Ryan Trentman	Angie Miller Sarah Miller Donna Berger	Olivia Rode	Dave Stemen	Aaron Trentman	Ally Hasting Jim Hasting
Sunday, Dec. 21	10:00 AM	Sue Kloepfel Dan Marlow	Angie Miller Sarah Miller Donna Berger	Kayleigh Rode	Ryan Trentman	Dave Mayer	Ally Hasting Jim Hasting
Christmas Eve Dec. 24	4:00 PM	Rick Dienstberger Deb Trentman	Angie Miller Sarah Miller Donna Berger	Austin Munshower Caleb Trentman	Jenny Snipes	Dan Kramer	Ally Hasting Jim Hasting
Sunday, Dec. 28	10:00 AM	Alan Trentman Yvonne Koenig	Angie Miller Sarah Miller Donna Berger	Alayna Beverly	Aaron Trentman	Alan Trentman	Ally Hasting Jim Hasting
Sunday, Jan. 4	10:00 AM	Lois Ewing Barb Krueckeberg	Vicki Rinehart Donna Berger	Caleb Trentman	Kathy Stemen	Eric Fritz	Roger Calvert Talan Siefker

Name: _____ Date: _____

Joy to the World

1. MUMELAEN _____
2. ELHEHBTME _____
3. RYAM _____
4. PJEOHS _____
5. USJSE _____
6. HDRSPHSEE _____
7. NMAREG _____
8. NDSWLAGID SCTOLH _____
9. EERTH IEWS ENM _____
10. SCUESN _____
11. OKDEYN _____
12. LGAEN BGELRIA _____
13. ENW NORB GNIK _____
14. RSIHCTSMA EEV _____
15. SGIFT OF EHT GIMA _____
16. TATCLE LSALT _____
17. RYHPCPEO LULEFLIFD _____
18. A LITGH IN HET ENKRSADS _____
19. SDSEPHHRE PIGEENK CHWAT _____
20. NGIRCEIJO _____

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

	1 Community Christmas @ St. John's 7:00 PM	2	3	4	5	6 Coffee Cup Bible Study
7 Sun. School 9 AM Worship 10 AM	8 WELCA Meeting 6:00 PM	9	10 Prayer Group	11	12	13
14 Sun. School 9 AM Worship 10 AM Catechism 1:00-3:00	15	16	17	18	19	20 Coffee Cup Bible Study
21 Sun. School 9 AM Worship 10 AM	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 4:00 PM	25 	26	27
28 Sun. School 9 AM Worship 10 AM	29	30	31			

