



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

7910 Belair Road ~ Baltimore, MD 21236 ~ 410-665-7300 ~ st-peterslutheran.com

Our Mission:

Learn God's Truth



Share Spirit's Healing



Follow Jesus' Way



February Annual Meeting to discuss the missions and life of the church is scheduled for Sunday, February 25th. There will be one worship service at 9:30 am. with the meeting immediately following. Please plan to attend to find out about exciting upcoming events and plans for St. Peter's!

Prayers Group

Feeling a little blue during the cold, dark winter months? Warm up with SONshine and prayer! Our "prayer warriors" will meet in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator access) on Wednesday, February 7th. at 11 am. All prayer concerns are welcome!



Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14th. Join the school children for Chapel at 9:15 am., with a communion service in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator access) immediately following, and at 7 pm. in the church. Lent mid-week services will continue through March 20th on Wednesdays at 11:30 am. in Grace Chapel.

"We LOVE
because He
first loved us."
1 John 4:19



World's Finest Chocolate!

St. Peter's ES & PACE is selling bars of World's Finest Chocolate. Interested in purchasing a bar or two (or more!)? Contact the school office at 410-665-4521.

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 2024 CHURCH COUNCIL

COUNCIL EXECUTIVES

Joe Mills, President
Karen Yelovich, Vice-President
Kathy Sykes, Treasurer
William Lauer, Financial Secretary
Patty Read, Recording Secretary

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Lena Frankenfeld
Heather Frederick
Linda Heinbaugh
Mark McQuade
Richard Murphy
Donna Mills
Steve Sykes

GOD'S COMMITMENT

While my family still holds onto a bunch of stuff that isn't useful for our daily life, I am proud of one thing in our household: our garage contains two cars. When we've had them in the past, the same has been true. I don't ever want to have so much that I fill up that space. When my neighbors have to scrape ice and snow off their cars to get going, I have a clean, reasonably warm vehicle to get to work or the store. Possessions should not possess us; they cannot make us any happier than the next guy whom I suspect does better than I do at obtaining them. Much of what I have in my storage space has personal value, with memories or uses throughout the year: Christmas décor, outdoor equipment, old papers, magazines, and books (yes, comics too) from my past. A flood or fire would bring me a great sense of loss, but it is still stuff, and not the people who make all the difference in one's life.

There's a large arc of a story that we're telling this Lenten season about how God has made us his possession. The watchword is covenant, a term we seldom use in our daily life, but perhaps one of the most important for our life under God. As opposed to a contract, believers define the covenant as an agreement where God secures the whole thing. We have our part, but whether we fulfill or fail in our responsibility, God will not go back on what he has promised. What are those guarantees? Oh, you have to come to worship to find that out, but you can guess that it has everything to do with the new, different life that God gives us. It is different because it is so far from how the world measures success.

Let me back that up with scripture. From Deuteronomy 7:

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on earth to be his people, his treasured possession. It was not because you were more numerous than any other people that the LORD set

his heart on you and chose you—for you were the fewest of all peoples. It was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him and keep his commandments.

Then from First Peter 2:

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, *God's own people*, – in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,

but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Peter quotes and refers to the covenant and the prophecy that flowed from it. Where I italicized the passage, the original Greek reads 'a people of his possession.' It is the best thing to know, no matter if times are good or bad, that God holds us close and will never let go or turn his back on us. And to know Christ is all we need, as Paul writes in Philippians 3:

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, – the righteousness from God based on faith.

With God committing so much to us, we have freedom to give our witness and our offering

in confidence that God will bless it to the purpose of Christ Jesus and his Church. Lent calls us to a commitment to honor God in how we give, what we say, and how we respond to the hurts of the world around us.

Again from 1 Peter 2:

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living

stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Pax, *Pastor Lans*

Pastoral Acts

FUNERAL: William B. Stockdale,
December 29, 2023



A NOTE from YOUR CHOIR DIRECTOR

On a cold winter's night, I am still looking at the Moravian star glowing in the dark on our porch. While we are still in the time of Epiphany, I can feel Lent approaching reading the text of a song that a friend of mine sent me. The title of the song reads: God Weeps.

God weeps at love withheld, at strength misused, at children's innocence abused, and till we change the way we love, God weeps.

God bleeds at anger's fist, at trust betrayed, at women battered and afraid, and till we change the way we win, God bleeds.

God cries at hungry mouths, at running sores, at creatures dying without cause, and till we change the way we care, God cries.

God waits for stones to melt, for peace to seed, for hearts to hold each other's need, and till we understand the Christ, God waits.

Another song that I came across today was written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer for New Years Day of the year he was to die. We find it in our hymnal. I want to share a few verses – they remind me of what Pastor writes in his article about God who is the one who never abandons the covenant he has with us no matter how often we break it:

By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered, and confidently waiting come what may, we know that God is with us night and morning, and never fails to greet us each new day.

And when this cup you give is filled to brimming with bitter suffering, hard to understand, we take it thankfully and without trembling out of so good and so beloved a hand.

By gracious powers so faithfully protected, so quietly, so wonderfully near, we live each day in hope, with you beside us, and go with you through every coming year.

(ELW 626)

And contemplating these words I think of another passage, this time in Paul's letter to the Romans. As we sail through all the bad news we are bombarded with:

For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8:38-39)

Bärbel Otto

February Altar Flower Sponsors

2/4 In Honor and Memory of February birthdays: **Mary Welsh, Steve, Andrew, Calvin, and Oliver.** Given by Betty Harry, daughter, wife, mother-in-law, and Mom-Mom.

2/4 Open at time of printing for 10:15.

2/11 In Honor of my daughter, **Carol Brook's** February 12th birthday. Given by Linda Heinbaugh.

2/11 In Celebration of **Jeff's** and **Michelle's** February 8th and 15th birthdays. Given by Doris Alkire.

2/18 Open at time of printing for 8:45 & 10:15.

2/25 In Honor of the birthdays of **Jimmy** (February 19th), **Heather** (February 26th), and **Holly** (March 4th). Given with love by their mother, Janice Frederick.

2/25 Open for combined service - contact the church office to sponsor.



Easter Flower sponsorships will be taken through Sunday, February 25th. Orders and payment should be sent to the church office. See the attached order form for details.

February Bulletin Sponsors

2/4 In Loving Memory of my father, **Henry Milke**, and my brother, **Charles Milke.** Given by Arlene Roth.

2/11 In Honor of my son-in-law, **James Williams'** February 7th birthday, and In Honor of my grandson, **Carter Williams'** 14th birthday, February 17th. Given by Marcia Darney.

2/18 In Loving Memory of my brother, **Dave's** birthday on February 13th, and In Honor of my brother, **Don's** birthday on February 18th. Given by their sister, Ruth May.

2/25 Open at time of printing.

To Sponsor ...

- bulletins or 8:45 am. flowers contact the church office
- 10:15 am. flowers contact Nancy Barnes

~~~~~  
**Altar flowers** (2 bouquets) - \$30

**Altar piece** - \$45

**Bulletin sponsorship** - \$10

**Rose Vase** - \$10  
~~~~~

Need a floral arrangement for an upcoming holiday event or special celebration? Consider using our Sunday bouquet florist, Drayer's Florist, of the Rutland Beard Floral Group! Call them for pricing and design information at 410-335-6286.

February Happy Birthday!

6 Don Bayne	19 Kamryn Whitlock
7 James Williams	22 Justin Beecher
8 Oliver Thompson	24 JoAnn Ely
10 Stephanie Yelovich	25 Hailey Sacker
17 Carter Williams	26 Heather Frederick
19 James Frederick, IV	27 Alan Sacker



February Happy Re-birthday!

1 Genevieve Sacker
3 James Lawrence
26 Laura Gasirowski

Happy Birthday and Happy RE-birthday to those of you who were born or “born into” God’s family through baptism in February! If your Birthday or RE-birthday is not listed, contact the church office.

Baltimore Cancer Support Group

Weekly Meetings: We meet at St. Peter’s on Thursday evenings beginning at 7 pm. All who are/have been touched by cancer are welcome to join us for conversation and support. For more information, contact us at 410-668-1762.

February Worship Service Assistants Schedule (8:45 am.)

February 4: 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Assistant: Erik Alexis

Ushers: *Jerry Dohmeier and Joe Mills

February 11: Transfiguration of Christ

Worship Assistant: Holly Frederick

Usher: *Don Bayne

February 18: 1st Sunday in Lent

Worship Assistant: Don Bayne

Usher: *Rich Murphy

February 25: 2nd Sunday in Lent

Worship Assistant: Heather Frederick

Usher: Kathy Shull

*Opener

Friends in Our Hearts & Prayers

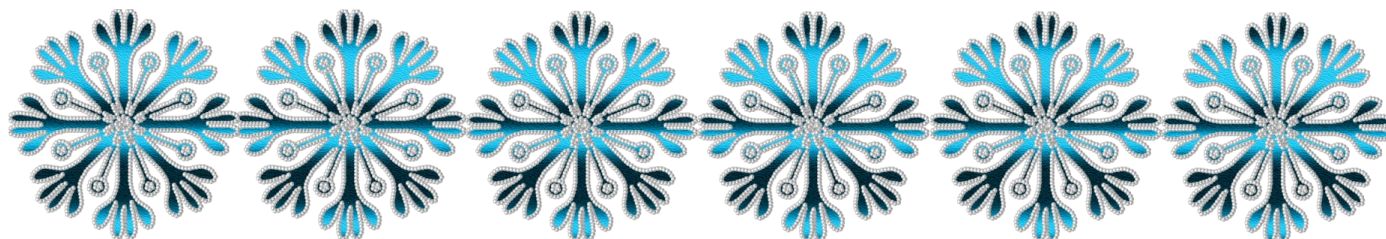
Ms. Agnes Froberg

Ms. Louisa Schultz

Dr. Beth Thompson

St. Peter’s WELCA News

Quilting Group - No experience is necessary to help with quilt making—if you can use scissors, we can use you! Contact Janice Frederick for more information (410-665-1868).



Church & School Staff

Church:

Pastor: Lans Alexis 410-918-9445
pastor@st-peterslutheran.com

Organist/Choir Director:
Bärbel Otto 410-665-7300

**Contemporary Music/Praise Team
Director:** Richard Stone

Secretary: Joy Mayne 410-665-7300
office@st-peterslutheran.com

Sunday Morning Schedule:
8:45 & 10:15 am. Worship
9:45 am. Coffee & Conversation
10:00 am. Sunday school

School:

Principal: Lori Fales 410-665-4521
lfales@spesmd.org

Secretary: Marcia Darney 410-665-4521
mdarney@spesmd.org

**Parents Association for Christian
Education (PACE):**
stpeterspace@gmail.com

Church Web Address:
www.st-peterslutheran.com

School Web Address:
www.spesmd.org

School Inquiries Email:
info@spesmd.org

Church Council Officers

President: Joe Mills

Vice President: Karen Yelovich

Recording Secretary: Patty Read

Treasurer: Kathy Sykes

Financial Secretary: William Lauer

Church Mission & Planning Team Members

Fellowship: Lena Frankenfeld

Finance: Mark McQuade

Investment: Don Bayne

Nominating: Open

Planning: Karen Yelovich

Prayer Chain: Ruth Diepold

Property: Don Bayne

School Board: Lena Frankenfeld

WELCA: Mary Lue Frederick

Worship: Steve Sykes

Annual Meetings

4th Sunday in February: Missions and
Life of the Church

2nd Sunday in November: Vote on budget
and council and Investment Committee
members

**Articles for *Networks* are due to
the church office by the 15th of
each month. For the June/July
issue, they are due by May 15th.**



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In celebration of the resurrection of Christ, our family of St. Peter's places Easter flowers in the Sanctuary. The sweet smell and beauty of these flowers always makes Easter very special here. If you would like to place an order, please complete the form below and return it with your payment (cash or check payable to St. Peter's Lutheran Church) to the church office.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PRE-PAID and returned
to the CHURCH OFFICE by FEBRUARY 25th.
DO NOT PLACE ORDERS/PAYMENT IN THE OFFERING PLATE

Flowers are \$7 each and come in 6" pots. They may be picked up after the 9:30 am. service on Easter Sunday.

Please designate the number of flowers you wish to order.
Where noted, flower colors will vary.

_____ **Easter Lily** (white)

_____ **Hyacinth** (assorted colors)

_____ **Tulip** (assorted colors)

_____ **Martha Washington Geranium**
(assorted colors)

The flowers are:

Sponsored by:

In Memory of:




In Honor of:

Ordered by (if different than sponsor name(s):

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 3:30p (S) MM 7p (N/S) BCSG	2 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (H) Board games 6p (N/S) PACE Crafting Night	3
4	5 3:30p (S) MM	6 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (N) Science Guys 7p (LL) CR	7 9:15a Chapel 11a (GC) Prayers Group 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (N) Snapology	8 3:30p (S) MM 6:30p (H) PACE 7p (N/S) BCSG	9 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (H) Board games	10 11a (H) Private Event
11 Transfiguration of Christ	12 3:30p (S) MM	13 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (N) Science Guys 7p (LL) CR	14 Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day 9:15a Chapel 10a (GC) Lent Worship 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (N) Snapology 7p (CH) Lent Worship 8p (S) Council Mtg.	15 3:30p (S) MM 7p (N/S) BCSG	16 6p (H) PACE Sweethearts Dance	17
18 1st Sunday in Lent	19 President's Day Offices Closed 	20 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (N) Science Guys 7p (LL) CR	21 9:15a Chapel 11:30a (GC) Lent Worship 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (N) Snapology 7p (S) Sch. Brd. Mtg. (virtual)	22 3:30p (S) MM 7p (N/S) BCSG	23 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (H) Board games	24
25 2nd Sunday in Lent Easter Flower orders/ payment are due to the church office 9:30a (CH) Worship 10:30a (CH) Annual Mtg. (missions & life of the church)	26 3:30p (S) MM	27 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (N) Science Guys 7p (LL) CR	28 9:15a Chapel 11:30a (GC) Lent Worship 3:30p (S) MM 3:30p (N) Snapology	29 Leap Day 3:30p (S) MM 7p (N/S) BCSG 		

Key:
 (BH) Brick House; (CH) Church; (GC) Grace Chapel; (H) Hall; (LL) Church Lower Level;
 (N) North Conf. Room; (S) South Conf. Room; (N/S) Both Conf. Rooms; (SL) School Library
 BCSG=Baltimore Cancer Support Group; CR=Choir Rehearsal; MM=Mini Maestros



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DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY~~GOD BLESS THIS MAIL CARRIER