

St. Peter Lutheran Church
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DELPHOS, OHIO 45833

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Office will be closed
Monday, January 2

February Newsletter Deadline: Friday, January 20, 2017

THE MESSENGER



The office will be closed Monday, January 16th
in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day



The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – January 2017

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR.....

As we come into a new year, I remember a story from my past as a pastor that continues to give me insight into the gift of life given to us all by God.

Tord is a Norwegian name. Even though I am totally Scandinavian in my background, I had never even heard of the name “Tord” until I met this 80 year old man in my parish in St. Paul, Minnesota long ago.

Tord didn’t come to church much when I was a pastor at his church because his wife was dying of cancer and he was taking care of her. When Gladys finally became hospitalized I came to know both of them as I visited with them at the hospital. I could easily see the love this man had for his wife of 50 plus years. He loved her deeply and when she died he openly grieved for her.

It was strange for a Scandinavian like myself to see this tall, large boned man with hands the size of a board, openly cry for his wife. And yet that is what Tord did. She was his greatest treasure in all the world.

It was just a few months later that Tord was diagnosed with cancer as well. And because Gladys and Tord had never had any children and with the rest of their family long gone, there was no one there to care for him. Eventually Tord was taken to a local hospital where they had an excellent hospice.

During my visits with Tord it became very clear to me that this man was ready to die. He had lived a long and full life. He had done well in his career and he had also been a very active member of our church for years and years. And I had never met someone like him before, who had come to the end of their life and who welcomes death with the arms of faith. Tord had no fear whatsoever of dying because he looked forward to joining his wife Gladys in the Church Triumphant.

The last time I visited him, Tord was in a deep sleep. I couldn’t rouse him anymore, and the nurse told me that he wouldn’t live much longer. It was an honor for me to pull a chair up close to his bed, take hold of his hand, and read to him several of my favorite psalms. I didn’t know if he could hear me or not, but this was my way of saying “goodbye” and then placing him into the arms of God. Tord was an exceptional man and the light of faith just shone through his life.

It is a real gift from God to reach the end of our days and to know that our cup is full and to be able to give thanks for all that has been. It is a real gift from God to be able to admit our mistakes and to take responsibility for our failures and still know that we did the very best that we could. And it is an even greater gift from God to recognize how God has been a part of our lives and continues still to be active in our world bringing blessing and salvation to all who will receive it.

Happy New Year to you all.

Pastor Steve

General Announcements



Radio ministry was given to the glory of God in December by:
Norma Koenig in memory of Ted Koenig
Himmeger Family in loving memory of Earl Himmeger
Len and Shirley Jarman

Mark and Linda Downey
And Christmas Eve by:
Matt and Carrie Calvelage and family
Ron and Sue Kloepfel and family
Dave and Linda Mayer and family
Martina Himmeger family



The flowers on the altar were given to the glory of God in December by:
Sharon Reel in memory of husband, Dan's birthday who is no longer in this world but living his new life with his Savior.

Dave and Connie Stemen in honor of our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren
Randy and Vicki Rinehart in celebration of their daughter, Tara's birthday

And Christmas Eve by:
Dave and Linda Mayer



Readers Needed for the first and second scripture lessons and the prayers during the worship service. Your readings can be emailed to you so you can look them over in advance. Please sign up in the red book at the back of church.



Quilting Day The next quilting day is Wednesday, January 11th at 9:00 am.

Thank You

Mike, Greg and Jenelle.

Thank you for the generous donation of \$5000.00 to the Steeple Fund in loving memory of Shirley DeLong by her children: Jerry,



Quarterless Auction The date will be Saturday, March 4, 2017. We have already started buying some items ahead. If you would like to help us and pay for one or more of these items, you can write a check and make it payable to St. Peter Lutheran Church for the amount of your purchase. Please, in the memo section, of your check, mark that it is for the Quarterless Auction. We will also accept monetary contributions, which helps us buy the needed items. If you have any questions, please contact Susan McGue (419) 234-6448 or Angie Miller (419) 234-2115.

Items picked up so far:

Apollo Precision Tool Kit/ \$11.03,	Amazon Fire Stick/\$27.00,
7" Fire Tablet/\$37.08,	Amazon Echo/\$143.49
Old Shark 3in1 Wide Lens for phone camera/\$5.99	OSU Crockpot \$48.02
Comforter / \$40.34	T-Ball Set/\$7.47
Chalk Board Message Center/\$14.42	OSU Cinch Sack/\$16.20
Striped Duffel/\$10.66	Bissell Sweeper/\$56.65
Canvas Tote Bag/\$25.25	Swarovski Earrings/\$14.30



STEEPLE FUND RAISER "A TALL CHALLENGE"

We have ongoing repair issues that needed taken care of. We have been assessing the exterior of the buildings. Our steeple, bell tower and the perma - stone, (block covering the exterior) are in need of attention. We also have a small roof at the rear behind where the organ is located that needs attention.

OUR GOAL IS \$25,000.00. We have been informed by the contractors that they may not have time to do the work this year and we will have to wait until Spring. We will have a chart posted in the entry way to show where we are on raising the funds. Donated funds should be clearly marked for "STEEPLE FUND." This is above and beyond normal giving. Anyone needing to discuss this, please contact one of us. THANK YOU. Property committee: Dan Kramer, Eric Fritz, Randy Rinehart

To date we have raised \$22,567.72 of the \$25,000.00 needed.

Adult Sunday School..... starting January 8th: Come join us for our new study on The Shack by Wm. Paul Young. Learn and share with each other this New York Times bestseller's story of a man, like you and I, being lifted from the depths of despair through a life-altering encounter with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit Ellen Ditto is leading this study at the Methodist Church and has volunteered to help me here at St. Peter, during our Sunday School hour.

Are you searching for deeper wonder, worship and the possibility that is in the world? Then this is the study for you. If you have a copy of the book, that will work. Otherwise, you can pick one up or order through Amazon at a good price. And then, start reading.

For more information contact Dave Stemen (419-812-9978 cell or 419-692-6436 home).

Altar Guild

Altar Guild's regular monthly meetings are the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 7th at 6:00 pm.



Please pray for the following family and friends: Jim Bryan, Jim Schimmoeller, Jimmy Foote, Christopher Alger, Linda Mayer, Chad Wiechart, Dave Gunter, Jenny DeCamp, Doroghy Vogan, Jodi Siefker, Mike Slonaker, Rick Reisinger, Judy Pohlman, Tim Trentman and Jan Goedde.

NEWS FOR WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



Good Morning/Good Shepherd Bible Study –
Bible study will be Wednesday, January 4th at 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall.

The January Bible Study is titled: *“Galatians Christian Faith and Christian Freedom”*
Session One: No Other Gospel
Theme Verse: Galatians 2:16

WELCA The scheduled meeting is Monday, February 13th at 7:00 pm. (There is no January meeting.)

InReach/OutReach

The next InReach/OutReach Meeting is Wednesday, January 11th at 6:30 PM.



Prayer Chain

Prayer Chain - If you would like your name added to the prayer chain (e-mail or phone) please contact Susan McGue at 419-234-6448. If you ever need a prayer chain started, please contact Susan or the church office.

When requesting a prayer chain to be started, it would be best to call Susan at the above number (she doesn't check her computer daily.) Susan is the primary start person and if she can't be reached by phone, then call the church office.



Keep our Military Friends and Family in your Prayers:

Jonathan Staples	Army National Guard	Stateside
John & Amber Becket	Air Force	Dalzell SC
Mike Hershberger	Navy	San Diego CA
Fred Hasting	Navy	Stateside
Collin Swick	Navy	Gainesville FL

Remember our Shut-ins

Vancrest Health Care
1425 E Fifth St.
Delphos, OH 45833
Melvin Kloeppe
Pat Wreede

Carl Dienstberger
E. Fourth St.
Delphos OH 45833



**THANK
YOU**

Dear People of God of St. Peter Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your generous donation of \$515.00 to the Annual Appeal. This gift will be used to help those in need know the love of God in Christ Jesus.
May you all have a blessed Christmas.
Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



4) Ryan Trentman
7) Kaiden Trentman
7) Renee Murphy
12) Alex Redmon
12) Sarah Fitch
16) Carrie Calvelage
16) Pam Schleeter
22) Landon Calvelage
22) Willard Dienstberger

23) Randy Rinehart
24) Alexandria Brown
24) Colene Davidson
26) Robert Freund
27) Carrie Kramer Lieurance
29) Sue Apple
29) Colin Koebel
29) David Mayer
31) Rolland Klenz
31) Kim Perrin

Offering Recap for December 2016

Worship attendance for 11-27-2016	58
Worship attendance for 12-04-2016	53
Worship attendance for 12-11-2016	47
Worship attendance for 12-18-2016	39

Amount needed **each week** to meet approved budget for 2016 \$2,126.11

Total donations received for General Operating Fund

11-27-2016	\$ 2,074.00 we missed our goal by	\$ 52.11
12-04-2016	\$ 1,485.00 we missed our goal by	\$ 641.11
12-11-2016	\$ 1,147.50 we missed our goal by	\$ 978.61
12-18-2016	\$10,980.00 we exceeded our goal by	\$8,853.89
Year-to-date 2016		\$ 186.55

We love seeing you at our weekly service. If you aren't able to attend please remember that our bills continue to arrive in the mail and your generous donations are greatly appreciated weekly. Thank you!



Connecting faith & finances for good.®

THRIVENT ACTION TEAM TRAINING:

Are you a Thrivent Financial member? Would you like to know more about Thrivent Action Teams and how to apply for one? Thrivent Action Team application training will be offered by Wayne Karges, Office Professional, at the Van Wert Thrivent Financial office the last Wednesday of each month in 2016 at 10 am and 4 pm. Call by the Monday before to reserve your spot. Please call 419-232-4310 by Monday, before 4 pm to register for your training time.

Thrivent Financial, 10730 Lincoln Hwy., Van Wert, OH 419-232-4310

If you are an eligible Thrivent member, you likely are aware of this easy, convenient way to help make a difference for organizations you care about. The Thrivent Choice program offers a way for eligible members to recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable grant funds each year.

Eligible benefit members are designated Choice Dollars® that they can direct, thereby recommending charitable grant funding for their choice among thousands of enrolled churches and nonprofit organizations, including **St. Peter Lutheran Church**. These funds are funneled through WELCA and have supported maintenance projects within our church.

In 2016, St. Peter has received \$1,203.46 to date.

COMMUNITY



**American
Red Cross**

American Red Cross Delphos Eagles will be holding a blood drive on Thursday, January 5, 2017, 1600 East 5th St, Delphos, OH from 10:30 am-4:30 pm.

Together We Can End Hunger This program brings people together and packages nutritional meals that can be sent all over the world. The Delphos area has a goal to package 10,000 meals on February 26, 2017 from 1:30-3:30pm at Jefferson High School. Right now they have about half of the people and money to pull this off. If you would like to help, call Ellen Ditto at 419-233-3524. Or if you would like to donate \$29 pays for the ingredients for 100 meals. This project is for people and families of all ages to do together. There is information on the table in back of church.

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
January 1	10:00 PM	Emily Dienstberger	Dave Stemen	Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Sue Kloeppe, Deb Trentman
ALTAR GUILD- Susan McGue, Donna Berger

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
January 8	10:00 AM	Noelle Prine	Rick Dienstberger	Dave Stemen Larry Miller Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Sue Kloeppe, Deb Trentman
ALTAR GUILD- Susan McGue, Donna Berger

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
January 15	10:00 AM	James Hasting	Alan Trentman	Dave Mayer Aaron Kloeppe Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Sue Kloeppe, Deb Trentman
ALTAR GUILD- Susan McGue, Donna Berger

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
January 22	10:00 AM	Maddie Weitzel	Aaron Trentman	Butch Prine Ryan Trentman Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Sue Kloeppe, Deb Trentman
ALTAR GUILD- Susan McGue, Donna Berger

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
January 29	10:00 AM	Anna Fitch	Yvonne Koenig	Sam Miller Lynn Koenig Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Sue Kloeppe, Deb Trentman
ALTAR GUILD- Susan McGue, Donna Berger

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
February 5	10:00 AM	Lauren French	Vicki Kramer	Matt Calvelage Dan Staples Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Yvonne Koenig, Rick Dienstberger
ALTAR GUILD- Linda Mayer, Sue Kloeppe