

St. Peter Lutheran Church
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DELPHOS, OHIO 45833

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Join us for Christmas Eve
Worship Services at
4 PM and 10 PM

January Newsletter Deadline: Thursday, December 20, 2018

THE MESSENGER



Christmas Eve Services: Monday, 4PM and 10PM



The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – December 2018

From the Interim Pastor.....

The coming season of Advent in December is probably my favorite time during the church year. Although, this time before Christmas has lost much of its message with the big rush to get us to do our Christmas shopping earlier and earlier. Still what I like best about Advent is its emphasis on waiting and hoping for the best.

We really do a lot of waiting all the time even if it is for a train passing through Delphos, and in some ways we have lost the patience to wait – unless we have to.

And that is what I like about Advent. It reminds us that sometimes when life becomes hard and we have to wait for an outcome that we cannot see, it is very difficult to trust that everything will be okay.

Advent even uses the example of waiting for a pregnancy to end so that a child can be born. This is the message of Christmas but it also reminds us how difficult bringing our own children into the world can be. We are hopeful and excited for them to come, but why does it have to take so long?

Advent can remind us that sometimes the waiting is part of the gift for which we are hoping for. Waiting prepares us for what is yet to come and sometimes there just aren't any short cuts.

Beginning before the Services in Advent I would like to take just a couple of minutes for silent prayer before we begin our worship service. Since Advent is a time of preparation, we can use this silent prayer time to pray for our congregation in the coming year. Prayer is a powerful way to welcome the Holy Spirit into our lives and to guide us in the direction we are to go.

At the annual meeting on December 9th, you will be asked about what to do with the parsonage. From a pastor's perspective, it is better for us to buy our own house if we can. Over the years the pastors who always lived in a parsonage and who retired struggled with the cost of housing. Where it is possible churches have been encouraged to give their pastor a housing allowance so that they could buy a house and then build up equity for when they retired. For instance, we have owned our own home in Wapakoneta for 25 years and I am very grateful that it is now paid for. Deciding what to do with your parsonage is part of the preparation for preparing for a new pastor, and we don't know what he or she will need.

Finally just another reminder that Pastor Bob Gibson and Pastor Mark Bauer will be taking turns as worship leader and preacher once in a while in the coming months. They are both very good pastors with different styles and I think you will enjoy them. And this too is part of the preparation for waiting for a new pastor to come here.

Pastor Steve

General Announcements



Radio ministry was given to the glory of God in November by:
Sue, Aaron and Paige Kloeppe in celebration of Ron's birthday
Dave and Connie Stemen in thanksgiving for their children and grandchildren
Norma Koenig in memory of Ted Koenig



The flowers on the altar were given to the glory of God in November by:
By the Altar Guild in celebration of All Saints Sunday
By the Altar Guild in celebration of Thankoffering Sunday



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 will be Wednesday, January 9, 2019. There is no quilting day in December.



Christmas Eve Services: 4:00 PM and 10:00 PM, Monday, December 24th.
There is no Sunday school on Sunday December 23rd and December 30th. Worship service will be at 10:00 AM on both days.



Christmas Cookies The Sunday school and catechism classes will be selling plates of frosted Christmas cookies for donations on December 9th after church. Your donations will be used for some local organizations to help others of the community.



Congregational MEETING

Annual Congregational Voting will be Sunday, December 9th during the 10AM worship service. The budget will be presented to the congregation on Sunday, November 25th. The voting will follow 2 weeks later. Please plan to attend.



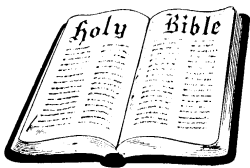
Egg whites are available the fellowship hall in the stainless steel fridge. Egg whites will be available until January. Help yourself.



Quarterless Auction: Our Annual Quarterless Auction is just around the corner, Sat., March 2. We are in the process of buying items for this auction. We always accept monetary donations AND Gift Card Donations! The beginning of February, we will have a food/beverage sign-up sheet posted. Please mark this date in your calendar and let us know as soon as possible if you will be available to work. Many hands working together always create a success. Thank you!

Angie Miller and Susan McGue

NEWS FOR WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

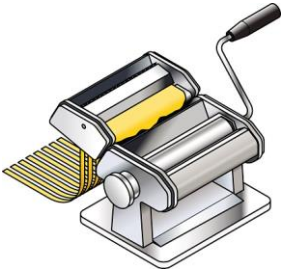


Good Morning/Good Shepherd Bible Study – Bible study in December: Members will be contacted with a date and time. If you would like to attend Bible study, please contact Jacquie Fritz.



December Bible study theme is *Fear not, God is at work beyond our ability to imagine.*

Card Tree WELCA will be accepting donations from the Card Tree to purchase poinsettias for the shut-ins. Christmas Cards with your donations can be sent to the church.



Noodle Making Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make the noodle making and bake sale a success. Whether you donated eggs, separated eggs, made the dough, cut the noodles or packaged them, we appreciate your help. We also thank all those who donated baked goods, helped with pricing and delivering and worked the sale. We also appreciate your monetary donations. We couldn't be successful without your help. Thank you!

Thank You

Thank You WELCA would like to thank everyone who supported the bake sale in any way. Thank you for your donated items, your help with making the noodles, purchasing items and your time working the sale. With your support, our bake sale was a success. Thank you!

Altar Guild

Called to *Serve*

Your Opportunity Anyone interested in assisting during worship service by being an usher or a communion assistant, please contact Susan McGue (419-234-6448). Qualifications: Anyone, male or female that has been confirmed.

Remember our Shut-ins

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

Carl Dienstberger
E. Fourth St.
Delphos OH 45833

Sharon Reel
Vancrest of Van Wert
10357 Van Wert-Decatur
Van Wert OH 45891



Keep our Military Friends and Family in your Prayers:

Mike Hershberger	Navy	Virginia Beach VA
Fred Hasting	Navy	Stateside
Dominic Munoz	Navy	Annapolis MD
Alex Redmond	Army	Ft Campbell KY

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.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- 1) Sheri Swick
- 1) Taylor Baxter
- 2) Austin Munshower
- 3) Alexa Marlow
- 4) Margene Freund
- 4) Angie Miller
- 5) Dan Dienstberger
- 12) Corey Kloepfel
- 13) Patti Calvert
- 13) Susan Grothouse
- 14) Sarah Hershberger
- 14) Ryan Nomina
- 14) Amy Nighswander
- 15) David Allemeier
- 15) Noelle Prine

- 16) Robert Wortman
- 16) Daniel Marlow
- 17) Jonathan Finn
- 18) Cathy Wreede
- 19) Carolyn Rice
- 20) Martina Himmeger
- 20) Leonard Prine, Jr
- 21) Kyrstin Warnecke
- 23) Kenadi Brinkman
- 26) Sue Vasquez
- 26) Mike Finn
- 28) William Turner
- 28) Renee Carder
- 28) Dylan Brinkman
- 28) Elaine Wiechart
- 29) Troy Kloepfel

Offering Recap for November 2018

Worship attendance for 10-28-2018	26
Worship attendance for 11-04-2018	54
Worship attendance for 11-11-2018	64
Worship attendance for 11-18-2018	44

Amount needed **each week** to meet approved budget for 2018 \$2,086.97

Total donations received for General Operating Fund:

10-28-2018 \$1,922.00 missed our goal by	\$ 164.97
11-04-2018 \$3,672.00 exceeded our goal by	\$1,585.03
11-11-2018 \$2,529.12 exceeded our goal by	\$ 442.15
11-18-2018 \$1,583.00 missed our goal by	\$ 503.97

Year-to-date 2018 shortage: -- \$5,053.75

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!

COMMUNITY



Ecumenical Christmas Service On Monday, December 3rd at 7:30pm. The Delphos Ministerial Association will present an evening of music and reflections at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Soloists and groups from various churches are involved, as well as young people from Jefferson and St. John's High Schools.



Christmas Dinner & Bazaar at The Trinity Family Life Center, 702 Ambrose Dr, Delphos, Oh, on Wednesday, December 5, 2018. Dinner served from 4-6:30 PM. Menu includes: choice of ham or beef, whipped potatoes, gravy, noodles, green beans, homemade coleslaw, applesauce, pie, roll and beverage. Price: Adult \$9.00, Children (under 12) \$5.00. Stop by and visit the general store and sweet shoppe. (Carry-outs available!)

December 2	10:00 AM	Garrett Trentman	Aaron Trentman	Sam Miller Dan Staples Volunteers
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MONEY COUNTERS- Sue Kloeppe, Ryan Trentman

ALTAR GUILD- Linda Mayer, Angie Miller, Sarah Miller, Jane Gonyea

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
December 9	10:00 AM	Lauren French	Rick Dienstberger	Lynn Koenig Larry Miller Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS- Sue Kloeppe, Ryan Trentman

ALTAR GUILD- Linda Mayer, Angie Miller, Sarah Miller, Jane Gonyea

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
December 16	10:00 AM	Sam Hasting	Alan Trentman	Ryan Trentman Kaiden Trentman Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS- Sue Kloeppe, Ryan Trentman

ALTAR GUILD- Linda Mayer, Angie Miller, Sarah Miller, Jane Gonyea

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
December 23	10:00 AM	Kylee Dienstberger	Dave Mayer	Aaron Trentman Alan Trentman Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS- Sue Kloeppe, Ryan Trentman

ALTAR GUILD- Linda Mayer, Angie Miller, Sarah Miller, Jane Gonyea

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
December 24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	4:00 PM	Landon Calvelage Matthew Weitzel	Ron Kloeppe Aaron Kloeppe	Sam Miller Matt, Carrie, Troy Calvelage

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
December 24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	10:00 PM	Lauren French	Volunteer	Volunteers

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
December 30	4:00 PM	Noelle Prine	Dan Kramer	Dave Stemen Rick Dienstberger Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Sue Kloeppe, Ryan Trentman

ALTAR GUILD: Linda Mayer, Angie Miller, Sarah Miller, Jane Gonyea

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
January 6	10:00 AM	Matthew Weitzel	Eric Fritz	Dave Mayer Chuck Hoersten Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Yvonne Koenig, Rick Dienstberger

ALTAR GUILD: Vicki Rinehart, Vicki Kramer

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE
U.S. WILDFIRES

NOVEMBER 2018

ELCA.org/disaster

Wildfires are raging across California, destroying thousands of homes and wiping out the town of Paradise, located north of Sacramento. Multiple deaths have been confirmed and large-scale, mandatory evacuations are in place for multiple communities across the state's impacted areas as first responders work to gain control of the fires.

Northern California and the California synods to respond to this fire. As the fires are still raging, we continue to assess the ever-changing situation to determine the best ways to respond.

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with Lutheran Social Services of Southern California, Lutheran Social Services of

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for "U.S. wildfires" will be used to help those affected by wildfires until the response is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support. Please give today.

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YES, I WANT TO HELP!

___ Lutheran Disaster Response: *U.S. wildfires* \$_____ DDG0077
___ Lutheran Disaster Response: *Where needed most* \$_____ DDG0010

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____
Email address _____

Give through your congregation or make your check out to
Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009
Write "*U.S.wildfires*" or "*Where needed most*" on your check's memo line.