

**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.*



Join us for  
Christmas Eve Worship Services  
at 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM

January Newsletter Deadline: Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>

# The Messenger



*Christmas Eve Services: Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – 4:00 PM & 7:00 PM*

# The Messenger

## St. Peter Lutheran Church – December 2022

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

Advent is an amazing time of the year when we celebrate our friendships and family in special gatherings. Party invitations come and we are inundated with sweets and good food. Shopping has to be done and gifts need to be purchased. Christmas lights are put up outside and Christmas trees are set up- many with favorite ornaments that help to revive precious memories of times and people who have journeyed with us through the years.

Yes, advent is a special time of the year, but how do we balance life and faith in the midst of this sometimes crazy and hectic time in the year? Advent in the church year is a time to create space to wait and watch for Jesus. How do you do that in your family? Do you take time to sit and soak in the quiet in the early morning hours while many still sleep? Do you have a tradition of reading the stories in Gospel of Luke of how God is at work to bring Jesus as the Son of God into the world? Do you have a family tradition of reading an advent devotional while you light the candles on your own family advent wreath? Is there a special family tradition you share that helps you to slow down and focus on how God loves us so much that God gives us the ultimate gift of his son to live among us? Do you have favorite childhood memories that you love to resurrect during this season of advent?

During this season of Advent, I invite you to find some time to slow down and to focus on the gift that Jesus is to us. What if we can find a way to be more intentional to look for the ways that we see Jesus in our midst. Can we then share what we find?

I see Jesus in so many of you. I see Jesus at work in the children and the teachers. I see Jesus at work in your families as you juggle faith and life. I see Jesus at work in the spouse who so lovingly cares for his/her spouse in the twilight years of life. I see Jesus at work in those of you who are praying for others and/or finding ways to serve in your own quiet ways. I see Jesus in all of you and I am so grateful to be able to be on this journey of faith with you.

As we celebrate the light of Jesus coming to the world, may your light of faith and love shine forth boldly. May joy and peace come to you in this season of Advent and Christmas as we look for Jesus and celebrate of his birth.

Love,

Pastor Carol

## **Consecration Sunday Update from Pastor Carol**

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, we held a special celebratory luncheon to culminate our weeks leading up to making a commitment to pledge what we feel God is asking us to sow into the ministry of St. Peter Lutheran Church. We enjoyed the fellowship of eating together after the service.

During that time, Denise Kloepfel tabulated the results from our estimate of giving cards and when she finished the cards were shredded. She put together a sheet with the results for Ron Kloepfel, who headed up the Consecration Sunday process, to read. What a celebration it was when he read the results of your generosity. You are an amazing group of people who in the midst of doing something that had not been done since 2002 rose to the challenge of asking God what you should give as an act of growing spiritually.

In the last few months, I have been becoming more and more aware of the need to work more hours to do the ministry of pastor at the church. The job is not something that can be turned on and off using a time clock. God has been good and there is an excitement about people coming and participating in worship and other activities. We are beginning to dream and implement new ministry opportunities to fellowship and grow in faith. All of this takes time. Your generosity shared in the estimate of giving cards gave the church council the confidence to vote bring to the congregation at the upcoming December congregational meeting the motion to change my call in service to you to become your pastor on a full time basis. I am excited about the opportunity to grow with you and to have the time to give attention to all of the things involved in pastoring a church.

So, I thank you for your generosity and faith in moving forward in ministry.

### **Council Motions to Bring Forward to the Congregation:**

First of all, the council moved to rescind the motion to make an amendment to our constitutional by-laws to change our annual congregational meetings to the fourth Sunday in January on a yearly basis.

With this being said, the council passed a motion to bring forward to you to hold a special congregational meeting on January 22, 2023 for the purpose to vote on our budget for 2023. year. You will have the opportunity to vote on this at the December annual meeting to be held on December 18<sup>th</sup>. This is due to the timing of Consecration Sunday and to give the Finance Team a chance to develop the budget using the data from the estimate of giving for 2023.

The council also voted to bring to the congregation the motion to change Pastor Carol's call as our pastor for 26 hours a week to a full time call as our pastor beginning January 1, 2023. Please see the formal motion below:

Due to the Consecration Sunday timing the council would like to move the congregational meeting to the third Sunday in Advent (December 18) to vote on new council members and to call Pastor Carol Pretorius as our full time pastor beginning on January 1, 2023. This full time call is contingent upon the 2023 budget passing at the special congregational meeting to be held on January 22, 2023.

The fulltime salary and benefit package is as follows: Salary based upon three years of experience for the amount of \$60,369.90 and then \$10,941.00 for Portico benefits for a total of \$71,310.90. This full time call will be evaluated yearly.

## Mark Your Calendars:

**Christmas Eve Services: 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM**

**Please note that there will be no Sunday Christmas Morning Service this year.**

**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 ( 415 Wayne Street , Delphos ) at 1:00 PM on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> for a little warm-up and then you will carpool to various homes to sing. There will be sheets with words to the most popular Christmas songs in case you've forgotten some of the words. Dave Stemen can give you more details if you are interested. Children and adults are welcome to participate.

**Paint and Praise to Happen Again January 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.**

We will be painting a winter scene with a snowman. If you are interested in attending, please let Lauren Trentman know. The cost is \$15.00 to cover refreshments and supplies.

**The Sunday School children will be singing on December 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**There will be a new Saturday Morning Coffee Cup Bible Study to be held at the church on the first and third Saturdays of the month beginning in January.** Bring your coffee cup and enjoy some fellowship as we grow our faith in Jesus as we journey together. Come be a part of this new group. The goal is to have the study time last about an hour. Time: 9:00 am-10:00 am.

### Wednesday Prayer Group:

The prayer group will meet on December 7<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 PM for pizza, prayer and fellowship.

### 44th Delphos Community Christmas Worship Service:

The 44th Delphos Community Christmas Worship Service presented by the Delphos Ministerial Association will be Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Delphos St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Join us for an evening of song and reflection as we prepare our hearts for Jesus' birth. Students from Jefferson and St. John's High Schools will perform along with other soloists from area churches. The public is invited. For more information, please contact Lynn Bockey 419-235-1083.

## 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.

### Remember our Shut-ins

Sharon Reel

Vancrest of Van Wert

10357 Van Wert- Decatur Road

Van Wert, Ohio 45891

**Keep our Military Friends and Family in your Prayers:**

Fred Hasting

Navy

Stateside

## **General Announcements**

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

- Ron & Sue Kloeppe and family in memory of our parents.
- The Himmeger family in memory of Earl Himmeger
- Dave and Connie Stemen
- Mark and Linda Downey in honor of Mark Downey's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday

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

- In celebration of the wedding of Amanda Vorst & Grant Brand on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Altar Guild meeting** – no meeting in December.

**WELCA meeting** is Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

**Council meeting** is Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM.

**Vision Meeting** is Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

**Youth Group** is meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00.

**Catechism** will be on December 4<sup>th</sup> and December 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **WELCA NEWS:**

The No Bake Bake Sale will be postponed until the spring. There will be more details as the time gets closer.

**With 2023 right around the corner, the WELCA board would like to extend an invitation to the women of the church to consider joining the board.** We have a monthly evening meeting which lasts approximately an hour 8 times throughout the year. Please contact any of the WELCA members (Donna Berger, Denise Kloeppe, Sue Kloeppe, Yvonne Koenig, Chris Prine, Deb Trentman or Marge Warren) to see how actively involved we are in serving the congregation as well as home and abroad. Thank you!

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 The Mike Gallmeier Foundation for Mike's Food on Us.

**The WELCA woman's board would like to thank everyone** for the donations of money, eggs, and flour for noodle making this year. We were able to make 108 bags total. I would like to thank everyone for volunteering from setting up the tables, noodle makers who mixed up the dough, knead, cut out noodles, and bagged them. Your time was very much appreciated.

Thanks to everyone!

Chris Prine

**Altar Guild would once again like to beautify the altar** with poinsettias for Christmas. The color choice is either red or marble. Cost is \$7.50 each. Please get your order in ASAP as we need a final number for the greenhouse by December 4<sup>th</sup>. Ordering envelopes can be found in the church pews or contact Angie Miller 419.234.2115.

### Chief Receipts:

Please save your chief grocery receipts and turn them in the container in the parish hall. The receipt will not be labeled "Community Cash" but they are accepting the receipts for the reward dollars.

The updated **Church Directory** can be picked up at the back of the church.

### December Birthdays

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) Sheri Swick        | 16) Dan Marlow        |
| 1) Taylor Baxter      | 17) Bob Trentman      |
| 2) Austin Munshower   | 17) Jonathan Finn     |
| 3) Alexa Marlow       | 18) Cathy Wreede      |
| 4) Margene Freund     | 19) Carolyn Rice      |
| 4) Angie Miller       | 20) Martina Himmeger  |
| 5) Dan Dienstberger   | 20) Leonard Prine, Jr |
| 12) Corey Kloepfel    | 21) Kyrstin Warnecke  |
| 13) Patti Calvert     | 23) Kenadi Brinkman   |
| 13) Susan Grothouse   | 26) Sue Vasquez       |
| 14) Sarah Hershberger | 26) Mike Finn         |
| 14) Ryan Nomina       | 28) William Turner    |
| 14) Amy Nighswander   | 28) Renee Carder      |
| 15) David Allemeier   | 28) Dylan Brinkman    |
| 15) Noelle Prine      | 28) Elaine Wiechart   |
| 16) Robert Wortman    | 29) Troy Kloepfel     |



# Children's Page

See if you can find all the words below.

## Nativity Word Search

C A N O I T A V L A S D N S H S  
Q S H E P H E R D S R F A L L U  
R A T S A M T S I R H C T E J S  
N E M E S I W S H E E P I G O E  
J G N I K M A R Y G I U V N S J  
M O S Y I H X Q U R Q W I A E T  
D O N K E Y R E G N A M T D P M  
Z I L I N N K E E P E R Y O H F



angels  
Christmas  
donkey  
innkeeper  
Jesus  
Joseph manger  
king Mary  
nativity  
salvation  
sheep  
shepherds  
star  
wisemen

