St. Peter's CHURCH
Preparing People for Eternity

The Yellow Beacon

FEBRUARY 2018 ST. PETER'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER

PASTOR TOM'S PERSPECTIVE

In the book of Isaiah chapter 6, we find the story of God's call upon the son of Amoz to the office of prophet. Young Isaiah is permitted, for a few brief moments, to have a look into God's throne room. There he sees the pre-incarnate Jesus Christ, seated on a throne (if you want to verify that Isaiah saw Christ nearly 800 years before He was born, see John 12:41).

Isaiah saw the majesty, power, glory, and presence of the Lord as the Seraphim worshipped God. The Seraphim cried out, "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory" (Isaiah 6:3). Isaiah, cut to the heart at the revelation of the Lord and His Holiness, cries out, "Woe is me for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts" (Isaiah 6:5). Anyone who encounters the Lord in a personal way and beholds the glory of God, is deeply moved by His power and presence.

Many people today are looking for an encounter or experience like what Isaiah had. They want to have some new and fresh revelation of God and they will do almost anything to attain that experience. We see "Christian concerts," "Christian seminars," and "Christian churches" resorting to all sorts of gimmicks to produce some supposed manifestation of God that draws people in. What many people don't realize is what they long for is an encounter with God in His might, power and Holiness, not some manufactured music seminar that leaves the group feeling good about themselves through some shock and awe experience.

I have been meditating on the Holiness of God as I am slowly and thoughtfully reading the book by this title written by the late Dr. R. C. Sproul. If you have heard R.C. speak, or read any of his writings, you know he is a deep thinker with profound insights that have come through many years of diligent study of God's Word. His ministry has been a wonderful gift to the world-wide church for many decades now. If you want to grow and be challenged, I encourage you to pick up a copy of this book and read it with me.

R.C., commenting on the desire of so many people in our culture to have a type of "wow" experience writes, "A recent survey of people who used to be church members revealed that the main reason they stopped going to church was that they found it boring. It is difficult for many people to find worship a thrilling and moving experience. We note here, when God appeared in the temple, the doors and thresholds were moved. The inert matter of doorposts, the inanimate thresholds, the wood, and metal that could neither hear nor speak had the good sense to be moved by the presence of God. The literal meaning of the texts is that they were shaken. They began to quake where they stood" (Holiness of God, 25). In other words, be careful what you wish for! If you want to encounter the Lord the way Isaiah did, be prepared to shake in your boots!

As you come to church each week, are you looking to meet God or are you looking for a cool experience? I do often pray that God manifests His presence to me and to our church in our regular worship. Yet, we must be careful to not expect an emotional encounter with God every time we sit down with our devotions to worship Him. God does reveal to us a bit more of Himself as we read His Word, study and pray – every time we do it. However, we cannot expect a "wow" experience every day. The disciples spent 3 ½ years with Christ, and only on one occasion were 3 of the 12 permitted to see the true glory of Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration. Every day in our walk with the Lord we are not going to live in the glory cloud. The prophets and apostles did not do that and we should not expect it either.

As far as we know, Isaiah only had one encounter in God's throne room and that was enough to propel him to a life of service of the Lord for decades to come. Likewise, we cannot expect to live in the Holy of Holies or we will miss the opportunities the Lord gives us to serve Him in our world.

Worshipping God in His Holiness,

Tom

Pastor Tom

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KEENAGERS ~ BREAKFAST

Tuesday, February 13
Brown's Café
Please sign up by Sunday, February 11

Ladies Prayer

Join Others Ladies for Prayer on
Feb. 11th!

Have you noticed that Ash Wednesday is on Valentine's Day this year?

I have been wondering, could Lent refer to the time that Jesus was determined to go to Jerusalem with His disciples in order to do His Father's will?

Please see Matthew 16:21, Mark 10:33, and Luke 9:51.

May this be a special time of prayer to prepare our hearts to love Him in a new way.

All ladies are invited to join us in the Prayer Room downstairs at

9:20 on Sunday, February 11th.

God bless you!

Christmas T-Towels

If you see any Christmas towels, please pick them up for Sue Shank so she can make them for Christmas in Loganville this year.

Thank you for helping with this Ministry!

Loganville Fire Company

February 17, 2017
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

If you would like this delicious chicken, please call ahead to order the morning of the Bar-B-Q, at 428-3668

GREETERS / WELCOME CENTER

2/4 Sam & Nancy Fike
2/11 Scott & Terri Rhubright
2/18 Becca Flinchbaugh & Kris Schatz
2/25 Darlene Sweitzer & Gwen Bish

PRAYER PARTNERS

2/4 Darlene Sweitzer & Gwen Bish
2/11 Beverly Markey & Kris Schatz
2/18 Stan & Vi Smeltzer
2/25 Peggy Sweitzer & Karen Sue

NURSERY

Downstairs Every Sunday at 10:00 AM

Infant to Kindergarten

Holly Jones
Marissa Eveler
Abby Jones

CHILDREN OF GOD

Downstairs Every Sunday at 10:00 am

Kindergarten through Grade 6

Jo Ann Carter
Eric Shive
Gwen Bish

Marlyn Stough	03	Ronald Dowell	24
Aria Higgins	04	Ruby Bair	28
Steve Smeltzer	04	George Christas Jr.	28
Jane Mula	06		
Rylee Laughman	07		
Katelynn Bair	10		
Jere Sechrist	11		
Kayla Lehigh	13		
Hazel Mummert	17		
Jacob Sechrist	17		
Chris Flinchbaugh	18		
Gavin Householder	18		
Brittany Sharp	21		
Justin Sweitzer	22		
Rick Hendricks	23		

If we have missed anyone's Birthday or Anniversary, we apologize and ask that you please contact the Church office so that we may update our records.

Marvin & Janice Myers	09
George & Karen Christas	16
Owen & Tammy Aldinger	24

INCOME/EXPENSE FOR DECEMBER 2017

General Acct Income

Benev Income $657.00
Cemetery $25.84
General Offering $30,475.00
Interest $3.76
Loose Offering $1,488.00
Memorial Cont.....$100.00
Mission For Grace.....$79.90
Miscellaneous Benev...$147.00
Miscellaneous Income..$948.00
Mission Trip $9,360.00
Repair Fund Inc $101.00
Christmas in Log.....$70.50
Mocha/Missions.....$275.86

Total Income 43,731.86

Expenses

Benevolence

Church World Services...$60.00
Community Ministries.....$94.36
Danielle $274.00
Forney's (Penn St.).....$274.00
Good News Jail.....$2,000.00
Human Life.....$2,000.00
Jason & Amber.....$274.00
Jason & Amy.....$274.00
Jessica.....$266.00
Jordan $274.00
Lay Renewal Min.....$500.00
Least of These Min.....$174.00
Lifepath Christian Min...$174.00
Liz $149.00
Maddie & Branden.....$274.00
Mission for Grace.....$79.90
Mission Trip $9,360.00
New Life $337.00
Mocha/Missions.....$150.80
Re-Creation.....$500.00
Sharon $439.00
WJTL $50.00

Total Benev $17,978.06

Cemetery $235.16
Electricity $871.18
Lawn/Snow Rem $3,175.00
Office Expense $304.28
Payroll Expense $19,204.03
Children's Program.....$149.01
Music Program.....$14.25
Program Materials.....$477.07
Christmas in Log.....$51.56
Mocha/Missions.....$230.06
Women's Min.....$42.60
Repairs/Maint/Equip $93.20
Telephone $123.30

Total Exp.....$42,948.76

Net Income $833.18

Building Fund Checking Account

Checking Account Int.....$0.44
Offering Env $100.00

Total Income $100.44

Interest.....$3.31
Market Adjustment....$2,497.20
Expenses .....$ 0

Net Income $2,600.95

Misc Account

Interest.....$.07
Mission Trip $9,360.00
Mocha for Mission $275.86

Total Income $9,635.93

Mission Trip/Other....$1,231.00
Mocha Supplies $89.31

Total Expense $1,320.31

Net Income $8,315.62

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Flowers

	How Many	Price
Tulips ~ 6 Bulbs	_____	$9.00
Hyacinths ~ 3 Bulbs	_____	$9.00
White Lily ~ 5/6 Blooms	_____	$12.00
Chrysanthemums	_____	$12.00
Azaleas	_____	$20.00

If you are interested in ordering Easter Flowers, please fill out the order form and give to Dawn Anderson, put it in her mailbox, or email her at dawnan67@aol.com by Sunday, February 18

Please make checks out to St. Peter's Church.

Thank you!!

My Total Purchase is $_____

I would like the bulletin insert to read as follows:

In Memory of:

_____

_____

In Honor of:

_____

_____

Person ordering _____

Phone # _____

CHILDREN OF GOD

CHILDREN OF GOD

Wishing Everyone at St. Peter's a Happy Valentine's Day!!!!

If, you're between Kindergarten and 6th Grade come and join "Children of God" downstairs every Sunday at 10:00 am.

January may have been extremely cold but, our attendance for Sunday School wasn't. We averaged between 12 – 16 children each Sunday. PRAISE GOD!!!! Please continue to pray for this ministry, we would love to see Sunday School grow to the number seen for Awana and can always use volunteers.

I can't go into a lot of detail because it's a surprise but the children will be working on something special Sunday, February 4th so, please encourage your child, grandchild, niece or nephew between Kindergarten and 6th grade to attend.

The Sunday school teachers want to give a special thank you to all the Deacons who help us with Sunday School. The young boys appreciate the Deacons singing (making more of a joyful noise) and praying. It encourages them to step out of their comfort zone.

Have a love for children and would like to volunteer with "Children of God" contact Tom Beck at 717-428-3559 or runningpastor@hotmail.com

Jo Ann, Eric, & Gwen

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 1 John 3:1 NIV

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ladies and Young Ladies Tea

March 10 at 11 AM

At Thomasville Tea House

She will have Easter baskets, candy and many other items.

There is a sign up sheet on the board in the lobby.
Please sign up by Sunday, March 4

Offering Envelopes

The numbered envelopes have been distributed. If you do not have numbered envelopes, but would like to receive them, please let Peggy Sweitzer or Karen Sue know and we will see that you get a box.

Youth Retreat

March 2-4

Our youth will be returning to

Rock Mountain Bible Camp for this year's THAW retreat.

The cost is $106 per person.

Additional information is located in the lobby.

Contact Pastor Noah at 717-646-6284 or noahtrask@gmail.com for more info."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS

Hannah Rae

Born on December 28, 2017

6.38 lbs. 21 1/4" Long

Loving Parents are Joe & Christina Markey

Loving Grandparents Are
Dan & Beverly Markey
Bob & Joanie Froman

List of St. Peter's Consistory Members

Elders
Jerry Higgins - President
Sam Fike - Vice President
Ed Wagner
Joe Markey
Mark Sweitzer
Paul Eveler

Deacons
Tim Gable - Head Deacon
Eric Shive - Recording Secretary
Dave Somerville
Mike Carter
Bob Fike

CONSISTORY

Pastor Tom launched us this week into a new study of the book of Galatians. In just a few short versus we learned quite a bit about the author, the area where the churches were located and the condition of the church at the time of the writing. The book of Galatians is just 6 short chapters and can be summarized as follows:

Chapter 1: No Other Gospel

Paul reminds the Galatian church to stay true to the gospel that he received by direct revelation from Jesus Christ

Chapter 2: Defending Justification by Faith

Paul points out that if it were possible to be justified by observing the law than Christ died needlessly

Chapter 3: Justified By Faith or Law?

The purpose of the law is to lead us to Christ so that we may be justified by faith

Chapter 4: Children of Promise

In Christ we are Children of Promise, joint heirs.

Chapter 5: Freedom in Christ

Paul says those who are in Christ have crucified that sinful nature and have become new.

Chapter: New Creation in Christ

Do good things but what really counts is the new creation.

Well that sums it up pretty succinctly. So how did Tom preach 40 minutes on three or four versus? Did you know as Tom pointed out this was the favorite book of Martin Luther? Did you also know that in his commentary of Galatians Luther wrote over 700 pages to bring us a better understanding? This book is at the foundation of our faith and growth in Jesus.

Get excited about what is going to be revealed in the weeks to come. Pray and study and ask God to prepare something personally for you each Sunday as you enter worship.

And as Paul said in 6:18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Your brother
Jerry Higgins

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

If you have any suggestions on studies or activities please let one of us know. Please keep our team in prayer as we prayerfully search for God's will concerning our Women's Ministry.

We will be providing sets of Bible study books for you to pick from again this winter. Our hope is that you will pick a book of the Bible, or pick a Bible study book - Find a friend who would like to do the study with you, and set your own schedule for the study. This way you will still be learning and growing in God's word no matter what the weather. You will have an accountability partner to walk through it with you even if you have to "meet" over the phone because of icy/snowy roads. Here is how it will work:

1) Pick a book of the Bible that you both want to study - or - Check out the Bible study books we have displayed on the table in the lobby.

a) There will be 2 of each book on the table. If you choose one of those studies please sign them out on the sign up sheet. If you want to just borrow the books please use a separate notebook to write any answers or notes. If you would like to purchase the books we are asking for a $5 donation (if you are able).

2) Set your schedule. If the weather is too nasty to get out just make yourself a hot beverage and give your study partner a call on the phone.

3) When you finish the study, return the books to the table-if you borrowed them. (if you would like to leave a short note in the book about what you thought of the study it may help someone else's decision)

4) Then pick another.....
Find our book selections on the WoMin table in the lobby.

Dates to Remember:

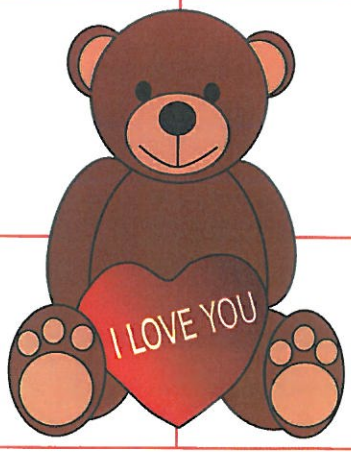
2/7	**10:00 AM**	**Womin Bible Study**
2/11	**9:20 AM**	**Women of Prayer**
2/21	**10:00 AM**	**Womin Bible Study**

In His Love,
Kris, Heidi, Laurie, Nancy, Christina, Kayla & Becca

Calendar of Events For St. Peter's Church

FEBRUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 2:30 PM TOPS 6:30 PM Youth Group	**2** 6 PM Financial Peace University	**3**
9 AM Mocha **4** 10 AM Worship 10 AM Children of God	**5**	**6**	10 AM **7** Womin Bible Study 6 PM New Hope 6:30 PM AWANA	**8** 2:30 PM TOPS 6:30 PM Youth Group	**8** 6 PM Financial Peace University	**10**
9 AM Mocha **11** 10 AM ~ Worship **9:20 Women/Prayer** 10 AM Children of God	**12**	8 AM **13** KEENAGERS Breakfast 8 PM Rescue Mission (Meal) 7 PM Elder's Meeting	6 PM **14** New Hope 6:30 PM AWANA Happy Valentine's Day	**15** 2:30 PM TOPS 6:30 PM Youth Group	**16** 6 PM Financial Peace University	**17** 6 PM Sweetheart Dinner
9 AM Mocha **18** 10 AM Worship / Communion 10 AM Children of God	**19**	**20**	10 AM **21** Womin Bible Study 6 PM New Hope 6:30 PM AWANA	**22** 2:30 PM TOPS 6:30 PM Youth Group	**23** 6 PM Financial Peace University	**24**
9 AM Mocha **25** 10 AM Worship 10 AM Children of God	**26**	**27** 7 PM Consistory Meeting	**28** 6 PM New Hope 6:30 PM AWANA			



St. Peter's
CHURCH
Preparing People for Eternity

1708 SEITZVILLE ROAD
SEVEN VALLEYS. PA 17360

PHONE: 717-428-3559

Email:
smilegodlovesyou@ddogcom.net
www.preparingyouforeternity.org

St. Peter's Church is located
at the corners of
Seitzville & Yellow Church Rd.
Seven Valleys, PA

AWANA ~ Wednesdays 6:30 PM
MTC Youth ~ Thursdays 6:30 PM

SUNDAY SERVICE
Mocha for Missions 9:00 AM
Worship 10:00 AM
Nursery/Childcare 10:00 AM
Children of God 10:00 AM

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Annual Sweetheart Banquet
Saturday, February 17 at 6 PM

This is a great night of good food and fun fellowship!!

There is a sign up sheet on the board in the lobby.
Please sign up by

Sunday, February 11.

New Life for Mothers and Children Banquet

Each year, New Life for Mothers and Children hosts a banquet to highlight the effectiveness of the ministry and to promote it within our community. This year our church will host the banquet on **Saturday, March 24th at 6:00 p.m.** Our church will provide the meal and the staff of New Life will lead the program portion of the evening. The meal will consist of roast beef, pasta, green beans, fruit, and dessert. There is no cost for the event. Donations will be received during the evening to help the ministry to continue to grow.

If you would like to attend the banquet, sign up is required. Since this is open to the whole community, we know that we will be full very quickly, so we urge you to sign up soon. We have provided a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the lobby.

If you have any questions about the banquet, please see Pastor Tom.