

## Preparing People for Eternity

**April 2024** 

ST. PETER'S A BIBLE CHURCH NEWSLETTER

#### PASTOR TOM'S PERSPECTIVE

As I walked into church this morning, the signs of spring are all around us. The daffodils are in full bloom. The grass is turning a beautiful shade of deep green. Buds are beginning to appear on the trees and the farmers are busy spreading fertilizer in the fields, getting ready for the planting season. New life is springing up everywhere. Very shortly, the robins will be hatching their babies and the white-tailed deer will give birth to fawns.

The Easter season is a time when we celebrate the new life that Christ brings to all who believe in Him. The apostle Paul wrote, in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come." This verse explains the Gospel in just one sentence. Christ came to bring new life to His people.

The sheer horror of the abuse Christ endured, the painful scourging, the mocking of the Sanhedrin and soldiers, and the excruciating hours that he hung on the cross is unimaginable to us. Good Friday was a brutally bloody day for Jesus. Not only was He experiencing the physical pain inflicted upon Him, He was also bearing the weight of the sins of people of all generations. While the sacrifice of His life were lonely, extremely painful, and spiritually devastating, it was the plan of God to bring salvation to humankind.

May we never lose sight of two things. First, the great cost of our salvation. Each day, I pray that we can pause in humble gratitude to Jesus for what He has done for us. We can never be thankful enough for what He has done for us. Second, may the significance of what Christ has done impel each of us to live our lives in such a way that we make plain the Good News to people who are far from God.fx

As we consider this, let us daily remember Romans 5:8 which says, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." The powerful love of God is compelling in this way. We can point people to the Lord and show just how much He cares for every person because He was willing to sacrifice His Son.

Let us never forget the significant meaning of this Easter season.

For His Glory, Pastor Tom



#### KEENAGERS ~ BREAKFAST

#### Tuesday April 16 8:00 a.m.

Mason Dixon Restaurant in Shrewsbury.

Please be sure you sign up so we can give them a fairly accurate count of how many are coming.

Any questions, please see Dean & Barb Ferree



Grace Howard would like to wish everyone Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary for the Month of April!





#### **Cook Books**

There are still cook books available!

The price is \$20.00

#### **Offering Envelopes**

If you currently do not use envelopes but would like to, as a way to tithe, you may request them for 2024.

You don't have to be a member to use envelopes.

If you would like them, please let Peggy Sweitzer or Melinda Trombley know and she will see that you receive them.

Your tax statements were mailed out the last week of January.

# Online Contributions for Tithes & Offerings

We are offering this service for anyone who would like to use it.
Go to St. Peter's website at <a href="https://www.preparingyouforeternity.org">www.preparingyouforeternity.org</a> and click on the Donate button at the bottom of the page.
This will take you to the link.
You can use Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express.

It is very easy to use. Please call the church office (717-428-3559)



#### **GREETERS / WELCOME**

4/7	Nate Wolfe
4/14	Mark Sweitzer
4/21	<b>Dave Somerville</b>
4/28	Joe Markey



#### **INTERCESSORY PRAYER**

4/7	Pastor Jerry Higgins
4/14	Elder Mark Sweitzer
4/21	Elder Jeff Miller
4/28	Elder Joe Markey



#### **NURSERY**

#### **Downstairs Every Sunday at 10:00 AM**

Our nursery will receive all children from birth to age three each Sunday morning.

Please bring your child to the nursery before the start of the 10:00 AM worship each week.

If you have a child in this age, please make sure to clearly mark your diaper bag with your child's name when you leave your son or daughter with our nursery volunteers. Also, please carefully mark the cup(s) for your children.

Stacy Wolfe Christina Markey



Tim Emig	01	Jerry Higgins III	13
Cole Emig	01	Grant Grayhill	15
Teagan Ehubright	01	Vonnie Gable	16
Teila Eveler	02	Melinda Trombley	18
Michelle Gable	02	Jim Forry	20
Karen Higgins	02	Emalee Bortner	21
Karen Sue Smith	02	Joshua Klunk	21
Jill Laughman	03	Brady Raffensberger	22
Ellen Healy	04	Bentley Philbrook	23
Mariah Ramsey	04	Paisley Stoltzfus	23
Olivia Tucker	04	Wanda Shivery	24
Gregory Kemp Jr.	06	David Ferree Sr	25
Zach Lua	06	Wes Fitzgerald	26
Derek Carter	08	Mervin Hertzler	26
Linda Wheeler	08	Tiffany Klunk	26
Mike Klunk	10	Kristy Martin	27
Ed Walker	10	John Trauffer	27
Craig Albright	11	Steve Venable	27
April Price	12	Rebecca Bair	28
	'		

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.



Richard & Diane Frantz	04/02
Dave & Bonnie Somerville	04/05
Tom & Machelle Bair	04/06
Rick & Sandy Hendricks	04/07
Mark & Chris Foore	04/08
Marlyn & Elaine Stough	04/08
Lance & Kimberly Krout	04/13
Adam & Jenni Sweitzer	04/17
Dean & Barb Ferree	04/23
Tedd & Linda Wheeler	04/26
Dave & Sharon Ferree	04/27

## **February 2024 Financial Statement**

General Fund	
Income	65,953.13
Expenses	
Missions	4,780.00
Total Building Fund Exp.	9,225.00
Church Operating Expense	142.82
Church Operating Supplies	636.72
Electricity	1,260.02
Funds Transfer Exp	53,000.00
Lawn Service/Snow Removal	3,402.50
Miscellaneous Expense	46.81
Offering Envelopes	303.48
Online Banking Expense	63.75
Payroll	11,769.30
Program/Special Expense	1,939.64
Repairs/Maintenance Expense	1,979.52
Telephone/Internet	235.80
Youth Program Expenses	4,247.74
Total Expenses	93,388.28
Net Income	-27,435.15
Building Fund	17,687.65

\*The reason we sometimes show a loss for the building fund is due to our investment account. As you know, this will rise and fall based on the performance of the stock market each month.



#### Bible Adventure's Year Is Ending!

On April 17 our group will be meeting for our last time. Since most of our students are Sixth Graders, this will be a challenging day for most of us. They will not be returning in September, when we begin again. Our prayer is that these young students have grown in their love for the Lord enough, so they will continue to grow by reading their Bible, praying, encouraging each other, and becoming a part of a local church. Father, we trust You to guide them and to keep them safe from the evil one. Thank You, Heavenly Father.

Our Equipping Coordinator was with us on March 26. Recently she and her daughter were on a trip to Uganda. WOW! What a different lifestyle! No electricity or running water. Could you live well without these things? The people there can, because they are so strong in their faith knowing that God will provide for their needs. She visited three schools. Guess what shocked her? The Bible is read in the classroom and God is spoken about in every subject. They think this is how our schools are. How I wish they were! Honestly, are we talking about God and His love each day, everywhere we go? Are we seeking ways to have Bible reading and prayer in our public school classrooms? I have been spending time with God in prayer about this. My spirit knows that every soul in this nation needs a personal relationship with Jesus. Does God have a special calling for you to help our school students? Please take time to pray and to listen to His gentle voice. I will keep seeking also.

May God bless you with a delightful spring and an uplifting summer. In His loving service, Beverly Markey

Jeremiah 18:6 "He said, 'Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?' declares the Lord. 'Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are



#### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

#### Come join the fun downstairs!

If you have children ages 4 - or greater, we ask that you have those children sit with you during the opening part of worship each week.

After the opening music and prayers, we will dismiss children ages 4 - 10 to Children's Church each week.

Children ages 11 and greater should remain in the church to worship in the sanctuary for the balance of the service with their parents or guardians.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; His love endures forever. 1 Chronicles 16:34

If you wish to join the Children's Church volunteers, please contact Elder Dave Somerville

Sue Quesenberry
Craig Albright
Cassie Emig
Tammy Cutler
Dave Somerville
John & Karen Krone
Beverly Markey
Mike & Jen Stoltzfus
Jane Mula



#### **AWANA**

Wednesday 6:00-7:30

Last night is April 3rd!

All children ages 3 through grade 6 are welcome.

Bring your children, grandchildren, neighborhood kids, and any other children of these ages.

We are having a great time together!

## RICE PANS Hello Rice Pan Cooks

The pans, rice and recipe are always available on the church bench for the month they are needed.

Be sure to grab two pans!

The cooking process is easy once you assemble spices, chopped onions and peppers, cooked the ground beef and opened the tomato sauces.

Mix all together and fill the pans.

Please wrap the pans tightly in foil and place in Church freezer. Please place the attached labels on top of each wrapped pan.

Many thanks for supporting this project.

Folks in York appreciate your kindness.

If you have any questions, please call Kate at 717-578-1085.





#### Baptism by Immersion on April 28th

In the Great Commission, Jesus commanded us to make disciples and to baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:18-20). In obedience to that command, we will have our next baptism by Immersion immediately following worship on Sunday, April 28th. We will journey to Codorus Church to utilize their heated, indoor baptismal pool. If you would like to be baptized, please sign up on the in the know bulletin board in the lobby.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The community is invited the 2nd Saturday of every month for a free breakfast hosted by Christ United Methodist Church in Jacobus

from 8:30 to 10:30 AM This month's date is April 13



Spring Workday April 27th

Mark your calendar-more details to come

### Congregational Meeting

# Following the Worship Service



#### <u>Congregational Meeting- April 7<sup>th</sup> immediately</u> <u>following worship</u>

The purpose of this meeting will be to review the new, proposed constitution and by-laws that the committee has developed. We will emphasize the changes that have been requested at the last meeting. If you have any questions about this meeting, please contact our Consistory President, Bob Fike.



Bible Adventure's Good News!

The students in Bible Adventure will be learning about Jesus' disciples, Holy Week, and prayer in March. Our pupils have also been invited to read about Jesus' challenging week through a 30-day reading sheet. The passage, Luke 22:7 –13, truly amazes me! Father God had a man carrying a water jar at the exact time that Peter and John entered Jerusalem. Carrying water was done by the women, not the men. Peter and John, two of Jesus' twelve disciples, were to enter the house which the man carrying the water jar entered. They were to ask the owner of that house where the guest room was, so the Teacher and His disciples could share the Passover meal or Jesus' last supper. The owner showed them that guest room which was upstairs and already furnished. God did not miss any details! Guess what? Jesus told Peter and John all these things before any of them happened. These two disciples found every one of Jesus' words to be true! I have a strong feeling that God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit each had a part in bringing all those details together.

I have exciting news to share. So far, God has blessed us with six new students since January. I believe one or more students are coming! Let's keep praying. Thank you! On February 21, 2024, one of our ladies accepted Jesus as her Savior. Praise You, Lord! Our staff is also beginning to grow. Thank You, Father! If you know of any adult who has free time on Wednesday afternoons from 1:00-3:30, please help them to connect with Jane Mula, Susie Quesenberry, or Beverly Markey. We greatly appreciate your prayers and assistance.

May God bless your family with a glorious celebration for our risen Lord and Savior on Easter.

"He's alive!" (Every day!)



#### **WOMIN'S MINISTRY**

Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge. Psalm 62:8

**Activities in our church for February:** 

Women's Bible Study

Tuesday mornings at 9 AM in the fellowship hall.

We are doing the study "Rediscovering Israel" by Kristi McLelland All ladies are welcome!

Any questions, please see Christina Markey or Laurie Miller.

If you are interested in joining the study for your first time, please let Christina know so she can add you on her phone list to call.

**Christina Markey & Laurie Miller** 



# Calendar of Events For St. Peter's Church April 2024

Sunday Monday Tuesday		Wednesday	Thursday	Thursday Friday		
Sunday	, and the second		, and the second		· ·	Saturday
	1	9 AM 2 Women's Bible Study	6 PM 3 New Hope AWANA	4	5	6
			7 PM Youth Group			
9 AM 7 Mocha	8	9 AM 9 Women's Bible Study	6 PM 10 New Hope	11	12	13
10 AM Worship	6:30 PM	Bible Study	7 PM			
11:15 AM Congregational Meeting	Elder's Meeting		Youth Group			
9 AM 14 Mocha	15	8 AM 16 Keenagers- Breakfast	6 PM 17 New Hope	18	19	20
10 AM Worship		9 AM Women's Bible Study	7 PM No Youth Group			
9 AM 21 Mocha	22	9 AM 23 Women's Bible Study	6 PM 24 New Hope	25	26	27 7 AM Church
10 AM Worship			7 PM Youth Group			Work Day
9 AM 28 Mocha	29	9 AM 30 Women's				
10 AM Worship		Bible Study				
11:30 AM Baptism Service				W.		



#### Preparing People for Eternity

1708 SEITZVILLE ROAD SEVEN VALLEYS. PA 17360

Phone: 717 - 428 - 3559 Press: 1 For Office - Melinda

2 For Pastor Tom 3 For Kitchen

Email: churchmom06@gmail.com

Website: www.preparingyouforeternity.org

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

AWANA ~ Wednesdays 6:00 to 7:30 PM (October to April)

Youth Group ~ Wednesday 7:00 PM

SUNDAY SERVICE

Mocha for Missions 9:00 to 9:45 AM

Worship 10:00 AM

Nursery/Childcare 10:00 AM Children's Church 10:00 AM

#### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Feeling the Call to a Short Term Mission Trip?

Perhaps a call to South Africa?

There are several short term mission trip opportunities coming up this coming year to serve with Youth In Transformation in Cape Town, South Africa.

March 14 - March 24, 2024

Camp (with high school students) (Mar. 20 - Mar. 23)

June 10 - June 21, 2024

Holiday Program 1 (June 17 - June 21) (elementary school students)

June 20 - June 30, 2024

Holiday Program 2 (June 24 - June 28) (elementary school students)

September 9 - September 20, 2024

Prayer Spaces in Schools (Sep. 16 - Sep. 19)

**Ouestions?** 

Interested?

Contact Jack Dyson-717.578.5501 or jack@youthintransformation.org