



# ST. PETER'S

## A BIBLE CHURCH

### Preparing People for Eternity

May 2024 Newsletter

#### PASTOR TOM'S PERSPECTIVE

Over the course of the last few weeks, Heidi and I have been dealing with significant discouragement in our lives. We have both been very ill physically at two different times. We have had vendors promise work for us that was not completed on time and was very expensive on top of it. We have been impacted by the effects of spiritual warfare all around us in many areas of our lives. It's been a long time since I've been this challenged.

How are we working through it? Good question. Some days better than others. It's hard for me to admit this as your pastor because I'm supposed to be the one that sets the example of energy, focus, and commitment. There have been hard moments to work through.

As I reflect back, here are a few lessons we learned. I hope they are helpful to you.

First, lean into Scripture in times of hardship. It's counter intuitive when you don't "feel" like you are in a mindset to read and meditate. Perhaps it's in our hardest times that the Scriptures speak the loudest to us. Over one third of the 150 Psalms are laments, written at times of despair, sin, and hardship. David prayed in Psalm 28:2, "Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward your Most Holy Place."

Second, I have found using music in these times is helpful too. The "Goodness of God" has been the meditation of my heart lately:

I love You, Lord For Your mercy never fails me  
All my days, I've been held in Your hands  
From the moment that I wake up  
Until I lay my head  
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

'Cause all my life You have been faithful  
And all my life You have been so, so good  
With every breath that I am able  
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

Third, I have had to remind myself of the words of Solomon that there is a time and season for everything. The times of hardship and disappointment do not last forever, although in the moment they do feel so heavy. In these challenging times, every time I hold one of the grandkids in my arms, I'm reminded how they see life and how exciting it is. Their energy and excitement for life is powerful. I see that in our children and youth at church as well. Any time I need a boost, spending 5 minutes with children changes my disposition.

If you're going through a hard time friends, know that you're not alone. Know that it's ok to lament and be grieving over losses. At the same time, look beyond the current situation to see God's magnificence and power. Realize that the enemy of our souls is constantly trying to get us off track and lead us astray. Often times the hardships we face are simply spiritual warfare. Just because our 8 week study of the topic is over doesn't mean that we don't need to daily remind ourselves that our "struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12).

I'm praying for you, church family. May the Lord sustain us and use us every day to build His Kingdom, for His glory.

Pastor Tom



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

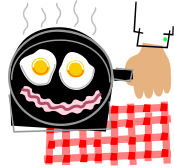
### KEENAGERS ~ BREAKFAST

Tuesday May 21 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 May!



### Cook Books

There are still cook books available!

The price is \$20.00

### 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  
[www.preparingyouforeternity.org](http://www.preparingyouforeternity.org) 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



5/5	Jeff Miller
5/12	Dave Somerville
5/19	Nate Wolfe
5/26	Mark Sweitzer



## INTERCESSORY PRAYER

5/5	Jeff Miller
5/12	Pastor Tom
5/19	Joe Markey
5/26	Mark Sweitzer



## 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**



May



Karen Krone	02	Jenni Sweitzer	22
Ethan Tucker	02	Nate Wolfe	22
Bob Fike	05	Grant Fitzgerald	23
Wesley Sharp	05	Richard Frantz	23
Hannah Miller	07	Grant Grayhill	15
Kathy Bowman	09	Scott McDowell	24
Pam Householder	09	Christi Bortner	26
Terry Senft	09	Katie Quesenberry	28
Tedd Wheeler	09	Kolbie Baugher	30
Karen Shive	10	Zachary Sharp	31
Jared Miller	11		
Raymond Christas	13		
Ron Cutler	13		
Joseph Markey	14		
Hannah Wheeler	17		
Mark Delp	18		

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.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Fred & Jane Mula	05/03
Grant & Anna Graybill	05/05
Jose & Jenny Lua	05/06
Michael & Jennifer Stoltzfus	05/10
Mike & Jo Ann Carter	05/11
Jerry & Alexandra Higgins	05/15
Jeffrey & Laurie Miller	05/15
Brandon & Amy Eveler	05/17
Mark & Wanda Raffensberger	05/17
Jere & Jill Sechrist	05/18
Larry & April Price	05/19
Andrew & Shelly Sweitzer	05/20
Mark & Melissa Sweitzer	05/30
George & Sandy Lambert	05/31

## March 2024 Financial Statement

### General Fund

Income	40,725.56
Expenses	
Missions	4,835.00
Total Building Fund Exp.	10,290.00
Church Operating Expense	150.22
Church/ Office Supplies	303.31
Electricity	1,207.71
Kitchen Fund Expense	253.48
Online Banking Expense	73.70
Payroll	14,777.78
Program/Special Expense	1,433.78
Repairs/Maintenance Expense	3,399.64
Telephone/Internet	235.95
Youth Program Expenses	887.69
Total Expenses	37,848.26
Net Income	2,890.80
Building Fund	8,077.14

\*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.



## WOMEN'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**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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.



## 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.

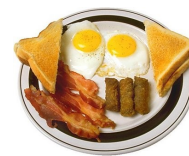
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
His love endures forever.  
1 Chronicles 16:34

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

## 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 May 11



# Calendar of Events For St. Peter's Church

## May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			6 PM New Hope 1	2 6:30 PM National Day of Prayer Service	3	4
9 AM Mocha 5	6	9 AM Women's Bible Study 7	6 PM New Hope 8 7 PM Youth Group	9	10	11
9 AM Mocha 12 10 AM Worship/ Communion	13 6:30 PM Elder's Meeting	14 9 AM Women's Bible Study	15 6 PM New Hope 7 PM No Youth Group	16	17	18
9 AM Mocha 19 10 AM Worship	20	21 8 AM Keenager's Breakfast 9 AM Women's Bible Study	22 6 PM New Hope 7 PM Youth Group	23	24	25
9 AM Mocha 26 10 AM Worship	27 	28 9 AM Women's Bible Study	29 6 PM New Hope 7 PM Youth Group	30	31	





**ST. PETER'S  
A BIBLE CHURCH**

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.

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)

Questions?

Interested?

Contact Jack Dyson- 717.578.5501 or [jack@youthintransformation.org](mailto:jack@youthintransformation.org)