



the CROSSWORD

Volume 15 Number 1

January 2020

Inside this issue:

- Council highlights from Dec. meeting; Cookie & Cocoa youth planning meeting, followed by pot luck meal and bunco **2**
- January Calendar **3**
- WELCA Bible Study and Activities; Pictures of assembly of playground equipment **4**
- What is Stewardship article; Silver Santa toy donation pictures; GISD donation thank you; Advent workshop picture **5**
- Church Information and Celebrations **6**
- Prayers & Cares **7**
- January Worship Leaders **8**



“Chosen Too” was the title of the Christmas Program presented by the youth for St. Peter’s members and guests on December 15. The annual program was attended by approximately 100 people, who enjoyed brunch in the parish hall following the program. GREAT JOB everyone!!

Coming Events

- **December 29**
Christmas Hymnsing
- **January 5**
Youth cookie and cocoa planning meeting; potluck soup/chili meal; Bunco
- **January 8**
Choir rehearsal resumes, 6:30pm
Bible study resumes, 7:30pm
- **January 26**
Legacy Presentation, after worship service
- **February 9**
Annual Congregational Meeting, after worship service

Sherry Sanders completes Lay Ministry Training Program



CONGRATULATIONS to Sherry Sanders, who completed her 3 year/24 Saturday Lay Ministry Training Program on December 14, 2019. Her fellow students and some of the class presenters honored her with a moving call to ministry as God chooses to call her, a special blessing and prayers, followed by Holy Communion which she helped distribute, lots of hugs and a beautiful cake.

Sherry has completed this program with monetary assistance and emotional support from her church family, and she sends a huge thank you to St Peter’s for their support.

The LMTP has been in existence since 1995 when it was adopted by the ELCA Church Council as policy. There may be some changes in the program coming up, but our Southwestern Synod is resolved to continue the program to train lay people to serve in different capacities and to be the training component of becoming a Synodically Authorized Minister (SAM) to address the shortage of ordained ministers in our synod, especially in smaller rural congregations.

If you are interested in learning more about the program or more about the unique theological learning opportunity Sherry has been blessed to experience, please feel free to contact her.

We at St. Peter’s celebrate with Sherry, and thank her for sharing her experience with us, and for sharing ministry with us now and in the future with God’s blessings.



Church Council Highlights of the December 13 meeting

- Sarah Brandes has stepped down from her position as director of youth activities. The Christian Education committee has decided that instead of having one person in charge of all events, they will have parents take turns being in charge, with the hope that no one has to be in charge of more than one event during the year.
- Thank you to Gerald Griffith, Jerry Kolmeier, and Aldon Bade for installing the new light above the steps by the parish hall entrance.
- Prices for trash pickup are being gathered and compared to make sure we are getting the best deal we can.
- A list will be made of all the things that a cleaning person/service is expected to do weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc. When that is approved by council it will be offered to the congregation to see if any of our members are interested in cleaning the church.
- Hand gun classes will be offered after the holidays. The insurance company has increased our premium by \$70 because having armed people present presents more of a risk.
- The new doors are in, and will be installed as soon as the company doing the handles and locks are available – watch your newsletters for a workday.
- Safety and security is investigating the desirability/necessity of having the doors locked.
- Council liaisons to committees were named: Christian Education, Brenda Bade and Leslie Wunsch, Property, Paul Post, Safety/Security, Ashford Taylor, Outreach, Regina Calhoun, Stewardship/Finance, Trey Wimberly and Worship/Music, Debbie Foster.
- It was voted to replace the broken water fountain in the narthex.

All other business appears in articles in this newsletter!

COOKIES & COCOA, SOUP/CHILI & BUNCO FOR

ALL — Sunday, January 5th, will be a very full day. First, all the congregation will enjoy cookies and cocoa while the youth and their parents plan youth activities for 2020.

After planning, the congregation will enjoy a soup/chili lunch to be followed by lively games of bunco.

Remember this is for the entire congregation, so mark your calendars and plan to stay for a winter Sunday of fun.

ELECTED TO CHURCH COUNCIL at the Dec. 8 congregational meeting were Regina Calhoun, Debbie Foster, and Paul Post. Council met following the congregational meeting and it was decided that Linda Koehler would serve as president, Brenda Bade would serve as Vice President, and Debbie Foster would serve as secretary.

Our thanks to outgoing council members, Eva Nell Griffith, Sherry Sanders and Terrell Wiggins, whose terms end Dec. 31, for their dedication, ministry and service.

THANK YOU to all who helped with the Youth Christmas Program, *Chosen Too*. Special thanks to Wendi Yendrey for all her hard work planning and directing, to Jill Wiggins and Jackie Gardiner for set building and decorating, to Dorothy Bowman for the music, to Terrell and Jill Wiggins for the hay, and a very special thanks to all the youth who took part in the program, making it a very special way to tell the story of Jesus' birth.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY resumes on January 8 at 7:30 pm. We will continue our study of Isaiah, beginning with Lesson 9 (pg. 101) on Isaiah 24-27 and 32-35.

DEC. 31 FINAL POSTMARK FOR 2019 GIFTS — All offerings to St. Peter's sent through the mail that are to be recorded as given in 2019 must be postmarked on or before December 31, 2019.

2020 Yearbook for St. Peter's to be available February 2

Gathering of information for the 2020 St. Peter's Yearbook has begun. In order to have correct information available in the yearbook, a clipboard with names, addresses, and contact information for members, associate members and college students will be placed on the table in the narthex starting December 29. Please take a moment to check your information and any other family members' information. If all of the information is correct, please place a check mark beside the name. If corrections are necessary, draw a line through the incorrect information and clearly write the correct information.

All listings of worship leaders to be published in the yearbook, including ushers and greeters, offering counters, etc., need to be turned into the office by Sunday, January 5. If you want to serve as a worship leader and have not been contacted, please speak to Sandra Post, usher and greeter coordinator; Lindsey Youngblood, offering counter coordinator; Pastor Anne or call the church office. Your help with gathering the correct information for publishing in the 2020 yearbook is greatly appreciated.

St. Peter's announces date for 2020 camp service weekend

Mark your calendar and save the date for St. Peter's church camp work weekend at Camp Chrysalis scheduled for May 1-3, 2020. Work projects will be chosen at a later date.

January

2020



Wed Jan 1, 2020

Church office closed

Sun Jan 5, 2020

9am Communion service
 10:15am Cookie & Cocoa and youth planning meeting
 11:30am Soup/Chili Potluck, followed by Bunco

Wed Jan 8, 2020

6:30pm Choir rehearsal
 7:30pm Bible study, Lesson 9 (pg. 101) on Isaiah 24-27 and 32-35

Sun Jan 12, 2020

9am Communion service
 10:15am Sunday school

Tue Jan 14, 2020

2pm Bible study, Women of the ELCA
 3pm Meeting, Women of the ELCA
 6:30pm Worship and Music meeting

Wed Jan 15, 2020

9am Lutheran World Relief workday
 6:30pm Choir rehearsal
 7:30pm Bible study

Sun Jan 19, 2020

9am Communion service
 10:15am Church Council meeting
 10:15am Sunday school
 10:15am Young Adult Discussion Group

Mon Jan 20, 2020

Newsletter Articles due in the office
 Deadline for all yearbook information and Annual Reports

Wed Jan 22, 2020

6:30pm Choir rehearsal
 7:30pm Bible study

Sun Jan 26, 2020

9am Communion service
 10:15am Legacy Presentation
 10:15am Youth Sunday school

Wed Jan 29, 2020

6:30pm Choir rehearsal
 7:30pm Bible study

Sun Feb 2, 2020

9am Communion service
 10:15am Sunday school
 2020 St. Peter's Yearbooks and 2019 Annual Reports available for members

**St. Peter's Calendar
 Save the Date**

Sun Feb 9, 2020

9am Communion service, followed by annual congregational meeting

Sign-up to provide altar flowers on 2020 Flower Calendar

The 2020 calendar for providing flowers for the altar is posted on the bulletin board in the parish hall.

If the flowers given for a particular Sunday are given in memory or in honor of particular persons, please inform the church office by Monday, prior to the Sunday worship, if you wish this information to be included in the bulletin for that Sunday.

Contact information while Pastor is on vacation

Pastor Anne and Jerry will be on vacation until January 2. Should a pastoral emergency arise during this time, please contact Eva Nell Griffith at 361-645-3881 or 361-649-3882 or Kathy Albrecht at the church office, 645-2922, or 361-645-3912 and they will contact a pastor.

Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting of St. Peter's Lutheran Church will be held following the 9am worship service on February 9, 2020.

WELCA Bible study and meeting to be held Jan. 14

All women of St. Peter's are invited to attend the next Women of the ELCA regular monthly meeting to be held on Tuesday, January 14. We will begin with Bible study at 2pm followed by the meeting. The Bible study, from the January/February issue of the *Gather* magazine, will be session one, **"We Are Called! Hearing God's Voice."** A copy of the Bible study may be picked up at the church office. Please plan to join us!

January 15 date set for next Lutheran World Relief quilting

We will be holding a Lutheran World Relief workday on January 15 at 9am, with stone soup for lunch. Everyone is invited to join in the quilting activities and share lunch together. Items for the soup, breads/crackers, or desserts are always welcomed and appreciated.

Items needed for Lutheran World Relief personal care kits

St. Peter's Women of the ELCA continue collecting items for personal care kits. Most needed items for the Lutheran World Relief personal care kits are:

- **Bath-size towels** (20x40 to 27x52) dark color recommended
- **Bath-size bars of soap** any brand, in original wrapping

You may purchase any LWR kit items at any time that you find a special price. Complete listing of all the kits and required kit items are found on page 33 of the 2019 St. Peter's Church Yearbook. Please place all kit items in the box by the cross table in the narthex.

Money may also be designated for purchasing kit items or for shipping. When using an offering envelope, please designate "LWR kits" or "LWR shipping fund" on the envelope.



On December 14, a large group of St. Peter's members met at "The Gathering Place" (St. Peter's picnic area) to assemble the new playground equipment. With the help of our volunteers, the work was soon completed and the playground is now ready for our youth to enjoy! Thanks to all who came to help...there were a LOT of pieces!



Thank you to St. Peter's—

December 10, 2019

The Goliad ISD Board of Trustees met on December 9, 2019 and voted unanimously to accept your donation of \$1,000 to be used for the Comfort Closet Project at the Goliad Elementary School.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, staff and students, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for this very generous donation. Students will greatly benefit from this kind and thoughtful gesture. Thank you for supporting our GISD students!

Sincerely

Dave Plymale, Superintendent



On December 1, Sheriff and Mrs. Brumby came to St. Peter's worship to accept all the toys that our youth had been collecting for the Goliad County Silver Santa Program. A check for \$1,000 was also presented to help with the project.

On December 1, youth and families gathered to create special Advent wreaths. With the lighting of a candle each week, the wreaths help celebrate Advent and prepare for the coming of Christ.



What is Stewardship and how do we grow into generosity?

Stewardship is about our values and the way in which we use the resources provided to us. We are all familiar with a tithe on Sunday, a special gift or pledge to the capital campaign on the occasion of special need, but there are other ways to make a difference!

Many Lutherans have never thought about the benefit to ministry of leaving a gift upon their own passing. Is there a better testimony to an individual's values in life or a more appropriate gift to make? Is there a better time for a gift to the church or ministry than when you least need it?

Perhaps before, but at least after naming children and other family or friends the beneficiaries of any funds that may be left in our financial assets, our thoughts should turn to the Lord who is the giver of all good things to return a portion to his work on earth. There is no better time that we will least need the funds or be in a better position to contribute to the Lord's work. Most plans explore the option of a **bequest, gift annuity, personal endowment or trust** as a last financial blessing and testimony. The church, through the Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest and ELCA, offers resources at no cost or obligation that guide the preplanning decisions you will make so that you know your wishes will be fulfilled as desired.

Statistics tell us only 30% of Lutherans have an

end-of-life plan in place. Even those individuals who indicate they have plans would be disappointed that the plan they have in place will not achieve their goals. Are you one of the 70% without a plan? Are you one of the 30% with a plan in place, but goals and objectives have changed? Learn how to assess these significant action steps for your family and church. Your Will or Estate Plan may need modifications at the present time. A Gift Planner can ensure your goals will be met in a current plan or if you need updates, a new plan.

If you are interested in learning more about tax-advantaged plans that help meet your family's need and that of your church or favorite ministry, attend the education **session beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary** following the worship service on **Sunday, January 26**. Lunch is scheduled for immediately following the presentation. Dr. Liz Johnson, a gift planner with **Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest** will be here and can meet with you on this day or at your convenience. Learn more and consider leaving a legacy that serves your family and faith-based ministries for the next generation of Lutherans and beyond.

Any individual can call the gift planner directly for a confidential no cost, no obligation visit. Contact your pastor or the gift planner, Dr. Liz Johnson directly at 713.775.1595 or email ljohnson@lfs.org.

St. Peter's Staff

The Rev. Anne Kolmeier
Pastor

Kathy Albrecht
Church Office Administrator

Dorothy Bowman
Organist and Choir
Director

Congregation Council

Brenda Bade
Vice-President and Co-Chair
of Christian Education
(term ends 12/31/21)

Regina Calhoun
Chair of Outreach
(term ends 12/31/22)

Linda Koehler
President
(term ends 12/31/21)

Debbie Foster
Secretary and
Chair of Worship and Music
(term ends 12/31/22)

Ashford Taylor
Chair of Safety
(term ends 12/31/20)

Paul Post
Chair of Property
(term ends 12/31/22)

Trey Wimberly
Chair of Stewardship
and Finance
(term ends 12/31/20)

Leslie Wunsch
Co-Chair of Christian
Education
(term ends 12/31/21)

The Rev. Anne Kolmeier
Pastor (ex-officio)



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

- 1-6 Amaly Beutnagel
- 1-6 Linda Hartman
- 1-8 Norman Seiler
- 1-9 Brady Beutnagel
- 1-10 Harley Jarzombek
- 1-11 Pastor Anne Kolmeier
- 1-11 Jarrett Yendrey
- 1-17 Ryan Luker
- 1-18 Carl Brandes
- 1-18 Russell Schmidt
- 1-21 W.A. Wimberly, Jr.
- 1-24 Conner Collins
- 1-26 Lynleigh Griffith

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

JANUARY ANNIVERSARY:

1-10-04 Lana and Gary Jarzombek

If any listings of birthdays or anniversaries are incorrect, or if a listing is missing, please contact the church office at 645-2922 or office@stpetersander.org



At the December 22 worship service, Pastor Anne and Jerry were presented a Christmas gift from the congregation. The metal Christmas decoration, filled with ornaments containing cash, was created by Sandra Post.

Thank you St. Peter's—

Merry Christmas!
We thank you for your generous contribution to our Comfort Closet.

The Faculty and Staff of Goliad Elementary School

* Card is posted on the church bulletin board — check out the inside artwork by Addison Yendrey!



St. Peter's Ander

Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gift that you gave us as a congregation. We feel so blessed to be a part of this family, and this gift is an extra bonus blessing! Thank you for thinking of us at Christmas, and for your love and ministry all year long.

Pastor Anne and Jerry

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship: 9:00am
Sunday School: 10:15am —
11:30am (Sept. — May)

Holy Communion: every Sunday service that is not lay-led.

St. Peter's Ministry Fund Update Through November 30, 2019

Ministry fund beginning balance, January 1, 2019	\$69,098.03
Offerings	\$185,298.81
Cost of ministries	\$210,809.59
Ministry fund ending balance, November 30, 2019	\$43,587.25

Note: St. Peter's Ministry Fund (previously known as the current fund and the general operating fund) includes all of St. Peter's regular, budgeted ministries, including ELCA Mission Support. It does not include designated gifts to the building fund, memorials, or other non-budgeted designated gifts.



Homebound: Barry Geary, 1403 Gohmert Rd., Cuero, TX 77954,
phone 361-275-5591

MEMBERS —

June Bethke
Regina Calhoun
Ina DeForest
Barry Geary
Tom and Marilyn Morris
Mike Wilburn

FRIENDS —

Troy Allen – friend of Pat McDonald
Mia Balko – friend of Karie Wimberly
Benny & Ellen – friends of Jill Wiggins
Troy Berthold – friend of Allison and Wesley Ball
Gay Bruns – sister-in-law of Deanna and Gary Wacker
Paula Calhoun – mother of Mike Calhoun
Kim Curlee – friend of Karen Klinkerman
David Dohmann – friend of Allison and Wesley Ball
Wilburn Eckhardt – Leslie Wunsch's sister-in-law's father
Denise Engle – friend of Amy Wilburn
Kurt Flower and family – friend of Beverly Martin
Joyce Foster – grandmother of Shelby Foster
Robbie Friedrichs – friend of June Bethke
Ainsley Garza – cousin of Arlene DeForest and Eva Nell Griffith
Peggy Gentry – friend of Elaine Post
Harold Gleinser – friend of community and brother-in-law of the Bowmans
Rebecca Graves – infant great-niece of Joyce Franklin, friend of Alvin and Arlene DeForest
John Hausmann – cousin of Allen Jank
Don Hedgpeth – uncle of Karie Wimberly
Dale Henderson – father of Margaret Luker
Betty Jacob – friend of June Bethke
Kenneth Jacob – friend of Glenn Karnei
Donna Justice – friend of community
Melita Keith – friend of Margaret Luker
Cullen Kickendahl – four year old son of Clint and Sherry Kickendahl
Mark Love – friend of the Taylor family

Jo Nell Martin – friend of Debbie Foster

Michael McLead – uncle of Nathan Irwin

Kit Mitchell – brother-in-law of Julie Franke

Doris Moore – cousin of Fritz Sturm
Carolyn Nunley – niece of Alvin DeForest and Sis DeForest

Cole Ohrt – 16 year old cousin of the Ray Albrecht family

Mary Poppert – sister of Ina DeForest and Alvin DeForest

Jose Reyes – friend of Shelby Foster

Marcus Rezendez – friend of Amy Wilburn

Tyler Rhodes – friend of Shelby and Ashford Taylor

Edna May Riggs – friend of Fritz and Geraldine Sturm

Susan Calhoun Rosello – cousin of Mike Calhoun

James Rung – five year old son of Greta Henke's friend

Jenny Sanders – daughter of Sherry and Sandy Sanders

Family of Billy Charles Scott – cousin of Leslie Wunsch

Stefani Soper – friend of Karen Klinkerman

Bonnie Staha – friend of Jamie Friedrichs

Bobbi Stiles – great aunt of Shelby Foster

Jay Thigpen – friend of Carl and Sarah Brandes

Victor Vargas – four year old nephew of Alyssa, Luke Abrameit's wife

Rob Wall – son of Brenda Foil's friend, Roxy

Thank you St. Peter's—

November 11, 2019

Thank you for your gift of \$1,000 to the ELCA Fund for Leaders.

Your gift ensures that students at ELCA seminaries who display tremendous promise can answer the call to leadership for this church and for our future. By making their education more affordable, you are helping future ministers attend seminary, allowing them to graduate with less debt, and ultimately empowering those whom God calls into ministry to serve as the church needs and the Holy Spirit leads.

Thank you for your faithful commitment to the education and development of future leaders of our church.

In Christ,

The Rev. Mark W. Olsen

Director, ELCA Fund for Leaders

Dear Members of St. Peter's,

On behalf of Cross Trails Ministry, I would like to thank you for the generous gift of \$41.69 dated December 10, 2019. Many of the programs and opportunities that Cross Trails Ministry offers would not be possible without generous gifts such as yours.

Your gift to the annual fund will help to provide financial stability and ongoing support to the overall ministry. It will be used to supplement the fees paid by all campers and retreaters to keep our programs affordable, provide financial aid for those who need it, and help us to keep the day to day ministry of our camps, retreats and expeditions going as we serve thousands each year!

We are truly grateful for your prayers, support and partnership. Thank you once again for your generous gift!

Yours in Christ,

Deanna Christensen

Executive Director

Thank you St. Peter's—

Dear St. Peter's Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your very generous donation to Platecas ministry. We are so grateful and feel so blessed. Our work continues as we continue to work very hard.

Rev. Enedina Vasquez

Pastor Platecas De Lanta Sophia



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1545 E. FM 1961
Goliad, TX 77963-3414

Phone: 361-645-2922
E-mail: office@stpetersander.org
www.stpetersander.org

The Rev. Anne Kolmeier, pastor
Phone: 361-676-4799
E-mail: revsplca@gmail.com

Worship Leaders for January

ALTAR GUILD

Sherry Sanders and Lindsey Youngblood

OFFERING COUNTERS

Allison Ball and Julie Franke

GREETERS

Brenda Bade and Monica Brand

USHERS

Aldon Bade and Kenneth Brand

FLOWERS

1-5 open
1-12 open
1-19 open
1-26 open

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Regina Calhoun and Beverly Martin

