



the CROSSWORD

Volume 21 Number 6

June 2026

Call Committee News:

The Call Committee would like to give you all an update on the Call Process. An interview process was started in April and after much discernment, we have selected a **Primary Candidate, the Rev. Kara Hairell-Speed**. The church council has accepted our recommendation and has called a Special Congregational Meeting to be held on May 31st following worship service to vote on making Rev. Kara Hairell-Speed our Pastor. Please continue to pray for guidance, wisdom, strength, and faith for our church.



This year, we joyfully celebrate the accomplishments of our 2026 graduates! Through dedication, perseverance, and faith, these students have reached a milestone, and we are proud to recognize their achievements as a church family.

We invite the entire congregation to join us for a special reception in honor of our graduates on **June 7, 2026** following worship. This will be a time of fellowship, encouragement, and celebration as we recognize each graduate and offer our prayers for their next chapter.

Let us continue to support and uplift these young men and women as they follow God's path for their lives. Please keep them in your prayers as they embark on this exciting new season.

Congratulations, **Class of 2026!** We are so proud of you.

8th Grade Krayleigh Irwin
Zaynee Parma

12th Grade Marleigh Luker
Maevyn Wunsch
Karolynn Youngblood

College Kade Irwin
Harley Jarzombek



St. Peter's Staff

Rev. Paul Kirchner
Interim Pastor

Dorothy Bowman
Organist and Choir Director

Congregation Council :
(*Executive Committee)

*Linda Koehler

President

*Jon Adickes

Vice-President/Security

*Debbie Foster

Secretary/Worship & Music

Kenneth Brand

Property

Sarah Brandes

Christian Education

Terri Lynn Dornburg

Christian Education Assistant

Cody Foil

Stewardship/Finance

Jarrett Yendrey

Outreach

Wyatt Ball

Youth Representative

Checking Account Report 4-30-26

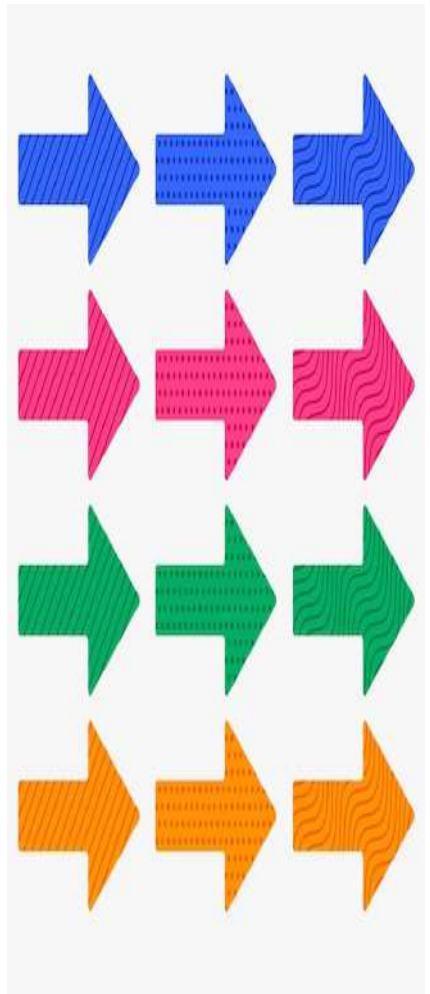


	Monthly	Year-To-Date
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 132,257.65	\$ 133,562.06
INCOME	\$ 23,373.35	\$ 80,904.60
EXPENSES	\$ 14,008.79	\$ 72,844.45
ENDING BALANCE	\$ 141,622.21	\$ 141,622.21



Thanks to all who participated in our May activities by recognizing Rachel's Day and donating to Upbring for our Mother's Day Tea! We need the help of everyone to attain our goals for ministry! We will not have our regular meetings in June and July, and decided at our last meeting to change our normal meeting date due to the first Thursday falling so early in the month. Therefore, our next Bible study and meeting will be on the second Tuesday of August. August 11 th at 10:00 am and 11:00 am, respectively. We hope to see you there as we begin a new year of study and action.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPORT



pixta.jp - 113114531

SWT Synod Assembly Report May 1-2, 2026

Overview: What a hope-filled, positive, inspirational two days! With the theme Becoming, based on Luther's quote, "This life therefore is not godliness, but growth in godliness...we are not yet what we shall be, but we are on the way", all workshops, video information, worship, was about what we are doing as a synod and in congregations to move forward, not complete yet, but working toward that perfect transformation that will be ours when Christ comes again. With the United States and the world in chaos that at times makes us feel discouraged and even fearful, the things that are being done in our synod to address these issues and the suffering of all people, shed a glimpse of the light that can be ours and everyone's. You all know how special it feels to worship in our community of St. Peter's, multiply that by 10 times as we worshipped in community with over 100 people, coming from a place of joy and thanksgiving for all good things! Even our sermon was about Becoming, as three pastors sat together and shared Bible readings and then their thoughts on those readings, presenting a sermon that was not finished yet, but in process. We participated in a Sending Service for Deacon Darcy who will be taking a Sabbatical at the end of May. There are no words to describe the music performed by a very small orchestra of piano, drums, violin, and more, led by beautiful voices easy to follow. And Lutherans know how to sing! It brought tears to my eyes! Wish you could all have been there! Workshops and Info: The workshops shared resources from the synod website that we can access. Food Justice is a study guide about food that ties food justice for all into the Holy Eucharist for all. The Disaster workshop that Sandy went to was hands on at the Disaster Trailer equipped with everything you can imagine would be needed in an emergency situation. The goal is to have 12 of these trailers strategically placed around the synod to help before, during and after a disaster. Talk to Sandy. The Justice workshop that I went to connected me to churches and people who are boots on the ground to help with legal and physical needs of those immigrants who are mistakenly arrested and detained, separated from their families, and treated as criminals without due process of law. We saw videos and heard the stories of just a few of the ways the synod is accompanying congregations in our changing world. There are 19 candidates currently in the candidacy process and 17 more in early discernment, with the committee accompanying them along the way. The Mission Fund for leaders has helped in making this route possible for some as well as supporting those leaders already in congregations. There are several new forms of worship and relationship with believers and community, and more new ways to worship and serve in New Expressions. Shared ministry is happening in larger areas with other ELCA churches, other Lutheran churches, and with our ecumenical partners. I can't share all the new things going on, but they are about flexibility, experimentation, and finding ways that work today in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ with our neighbors everywhere, and they are available at the synod website: swtsynod.org Business: Nothing exciting or eventful in our business meetings. We elected several people to the Consultation and Discipline Committees; we ratified two resolutions. The first was providing an action of encouraging congregations to attend at least one educational event per year to learn more about the history and current situation between Israel and Palestine. The second was to enable through funding and staffing all congregations to participate in the World Council of Churches' Ecumenical Decade of Climate Justice Action. We passed a budget for the next fiscal year, with no big changes or discussions. During our Cross Trails Camping meeting, we learned of the new safety regulations that have been put in place following the disaster flooding in the Hill Country last year. Chrysalis is in compliance with all new requirements, as is Ebert except for the one that requires fiber internet which is impossible due to the location and the size of the ranch. They are working on a suit to be excluded from that requirement, so pray for that to happen, so they can continue to serve campers. Deanna Christianson was honored with a plaque for 25 years of service leading the camping ministry. They are still hiring staff for the summer, young adults especially.

We're Searching for Volunteers



Kenneth Brand has been our contact person for Cross Trails Ministries for quite a few years. He is ready to help someone else to take on the responsibilities of booking a camp work-weekend and getting the projects secured. This doesn't need to be one person, it can be a team of two or more. For more information, please talk to Kenneth and he will

fill you in on what you would need to do.

There is a need to form a new committee for additional items and updates to the Gathering Place. If you would like to serve on this committee, please contact Debbie Foster or Lana Jarzombek. We will start meeting in July to go over the needs and wants to prioritize into phases and start a donation campaign. If you do not want to serve on the committee but have something to include on the request list, please get these to

Debbie or Lana by June 30th.



Aldon and Brenda Bade have been raking leaves in the cemetery for a long, long time. When you turn 70+, would you want this job? Let's get them some help, by volunteering as a youth who needs community service, or get a whole group to volunteer. Talk to Me. Bade for more information on when this needs to be done.



Council is reaching out to members of the congregation for any IT input and possibly create a Tech Committee to handle future issues. Ifb no one is available, an outside tech will need to be hired as needed.





Council Corner:

- St. Peter's Lutheran Church
- Council Meeting Highlights
- May 14, 2026

-May 31 will be Blessing of Wheels. VBS dates to come. Summer program highlights are in the newsletter.

-Jarrett thanks all for the approval to send money to Nathan Smith out of local benevolence for help with his medical treatment and recovery. He remains in our prayers.

-Jarrett is still working with Sole Mission for setting a date.

-There was an update from Call Committee by Lana Jarzombek. The Call Committee presented. Council the name of Kara Hairell-Speed as the applicant for pastor position.

-A congregational meeting will be on May 31, following church service to vote to accept the call. A second meeting will follow to amend the budget for a full time pastor.

-Council has approved the project of replacing pew cushions. This will also be addressed by congregation at the 2nd meeting on May 31.

The church computer will need to be replaced soon. Council is reaching out to members of the congregation for any IT input and possibly create a Tech Committee to handle future issues. If no one is available, an outside tech will need to be hired as needed.

This summer, kids and families are invited to join us for our “Create Your Own Summer Bible Reading Adventure” at St. Peter's Lutheran Church! We'll gather for five exciting hands-on events throughout the summer featuring a Bible story, crafts, games, and fun food and/or science activities connected to each lesson. Our adventure dates include: *Noah's Ark* on May 31, *Jonah and the Big Fish* on June 14, *Walking on Water* on June 28, *Woman at the Well* on July 19, and *Lydia* on August 2. Families of all ages are encouraged to come explore God's Word together as we learn, create, and grow in faith all summer long!

On Sunday, May 31 during worship, children of all ages are invited to bring their “wheeled things” – bicycles, scooters, wagons, tricycles, and more – for our special Blessing of Wheeled Things! As we kick off a summer full of fun, adventure, and activity, we'll pray for God's protection, joy, and safe travels for all our families wherever the road may lead this summer.



Summer Youth Activities Update

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Kirk & Karen Klinkerman June 1, 1996**
- Lyle & Wanda Schendel June 2, 1968**
- Pat & Denise Lovett June 21, 1986**
- Ray & Kathy Schneider June 22, 2013**
- Tret & Karie Wimberly June 24, 1995**
- Allen & Ruby Jank June 27, 1954**
- Justin & Lindsey Youngblood June 29, 2006**

June



- June 1 Boyd Schendel**
- June 2 J.R.Pruski**
- June 2 Drake Rogers**
- June 2 Leota Romine**
- June 4 Bill Bates**
- June 4 Mike Wilburn**
- June 7 Debbie Foster**
- June 15 Amanda Beutnagel**
- June 17 Chris Ideus**
- June 17 Shelby Torres**

- June 20 Fischer Saxton**
- June 21 Andrew Abrameit**
- June 24 Loyce McCulloough**
- June 24 Laren Rogers**
- June 27 Kathy Albrecht**
- June 28 Mark Jacobs**
- June 28 Gary Wacker**





Stephanie Sturm - grand-daughter of Geraldine Sturm

Rose Trevino—friend of Jamie Friedrichs

Victor Vargas - nephew of Alyssa (Luke Abrameit's wife)

Jordan Wise - friend of the Wimberlys

Buddy Young - friend of the community

Joyce Baecker—friend of the community

Terra Brand - Terrell Wiggins' niece

Casey Brown - friend of the Tislows

Family of Elva Carrera-grandmother of Jess Odem

Alvin & Arlene DeForest—Church members

Ainsley Garza - friend of the DeForests

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*Barry Geary-church family member (homebound)

Richard Gisler— father of Vickie Wimberly

Family of Rachel Golden-36 year old killed in car wreck

Rebecca Graves - great niece of Joyce Franklin, friend of Alvin & Arlene DeForest

Jennifer Gries-teacher at Linnea Griffith's school

Kohen Hattenbach - niece of Tyler and Megan Tislow

Jo Nell Martin - friend of Debbie Foster & the community

Glen Miller - Brenda Bade's brother-in-law

Mike Moseley - Margaret Luker's cousin

Robert & Donna Parkinson - Wendi Yendrey's parents

Pauline Pollard - Karie Wimberly's grandmother

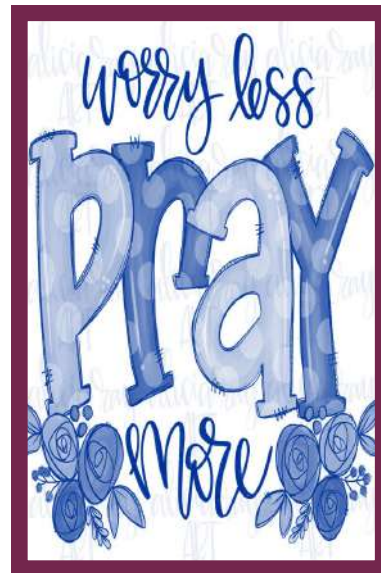
Keith Poppert - brother-in-law of Ina & Alvin DeForest

Sara - niece of Eva Griffith

Danny Salazar

Kenneth Sanders - Sandy's Brother

Annie Schwin—mother of Sharon Abrameit and church family member



REMEMBER TO CONTACT

Sandra Post by email stpetesander@gmail.com, or by texting or calling her at 361-649-5127 with St. Peter's prayer list updates, the person's current needs, **or when they can be removed from the list.**





St. Peter's Lutheran Church
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Goliad, TX 77963-3414

Phone: 361-645-2922
E-mail: stpetersander@gmail.com

Rev. Paul Kirchner
Interim Pastor
Phone: 361-433-3639



June Ministry Assistants



Altar Guild:
Sandra Post

Offering Counters:
Kenneth Brand
Nelson Jacob



Ushers:

June 7	Cody Foil/Harley J
June 14	Cody Foil/Harley J
June 21	Cody Foil/Paul P
June 28	Cody Foil/Paul P

