



December 2020

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Coming Events

- **December 13** Christmas Program, at 9am; Annual meeting—part 1, following worship
- December 24 Christmas Eve Service of Light with communion at the Gathering Place, at 5:30pm
- December 27 Christmas Hymnsing, at the Gathering Place, at 9am
- January 3 Worship/Communion in the Sanctuary, at 9am



Midweek worship service online starts December 2

PROCLAIM THE WONDROUS BIRTH



is the theme for this year's weekday Advent Services. We know that the birth of the baby Jesus was a wondrous, miraculous event that changed history, but

there were other wondrous births that led up to that one. Join us as we remember the births of Isaac, Samuel, and John in brief worship services to help us prepare for Christmas. All services will be online this year. The link will be sent to everyone we have email addresses for, and posted on Facebook.

Notice for Congregational Meeting to be held Dec. 13

The annual congregational meeting Part 1 will be held after the worship service at the Gathering Place on Sunday, December 13, 2020. This meeting is to approve the proposed budget for 2021, as well as elect people to several positions. This is the list of who has already agreed to run —

- · Church Council (2 positions to fill): David Bowman and Lindsey Youngblood
- · Financial Secretary: Jackie Gardiner
- Treasurer: Jamie Friedrichs
- Cemetery Chair: Trey Wimberly
- Memorial Committee Chair: Beverly Martin
- Memorial Treasurer: Brenda Bade
- Perpetual Care Treasurer: Arlene DeForest



Celebrate the birth of our Savior

CHRISTMAS EVE worship will be a Drive in Service of Light at 5:30pm at the Gathering Place. Join us among the lights and poinsettias as we celebrate the birth of our Savior with Christmas music and communion (bring your own elements). Chairs will be set up (socially distanced!) or you can stay in your vehicle, but please join us for the celebration. We will try to record the service and send out the link.

Service plans for December 27 Hymnsing

A CHRISTMAS HYMNSING service of Carols and Scripture will be held on Sunday, December 27. the service will be Drive in Worship at the Gathering Place beginning at 9:00am. Join us as we continue our celebration of the birth of Christ! There will be no communion at this service.

St. Peter's collecting toys and clothing for Silver Santa



The Goliad Sheriff's Dept. drive to provide toys and clothing for children in need, will once again be the recipient of toys and clothing collected

by St. Peter's. We will be collecting through the month of November. Sheriff and Mrs. Brumby will be at St. Peter's on December 6 to pick them up. Put your donations of new toys and children's clothing in the box in the narthex, leave them in the fellowship hall marked "Silver Santa," or in the box at the Gathering Place when Sunday worship is held there.

Church Council Highlights of the November 15, 2020 meeting

- Christian Ed is planning a virtual crafty lesson for Advent in December, as well as a Youth activity painting on canvas for January - watch newsletter, announcements, and Facebook for dates and further details. When conditions are safer, there will be an intergenerational Horseshoe tournament sponsored by the youth, and perhaps another Bunco day.
- The new sound system at the picnic area is working well. Terrell Wiggins purchased the cables and extra microphones.
- The new sound setup for outside speakers during indoor worship will be installed for the Nov. 29 indoor worship service.



2020 Christmas program to be presented Dec. 13

St. Peter's Family Christmas, this year's Christmas Program, will be on December 13, 2020 during the worship service. Because of the pandemic, we need your help more than ever this year, and sooner than ever as well! Instead of a production with rehearsals, this year's program will be a video featuring the families of St. Peter's (of all kinds). Sing a Christmas song, read a Christmas story, share a special Christmas tradition your family has, or all of the above. Video them (remember to turn your device sideways/landscape to eliminate bars on the side), then send the video to Wendi Yendrey at wyendrey@gmail.com to put together into one video.

We need all the videos turned in to Wendi by NOVEMBER 30, so she has time to edit and format. If you have any questions about how best to send it to her, contact her at wyendrey@gmail.com or 979-450-4299.

TLU Christmas Vespers 2020: Singing Darkness to Light

This year's annual Christmas Vespers performance, "Singing Darkness to Light," marks the 80th anniversary of this sacred service of music and word. Adapted to a virtual streaming format for 2020, a link to listen on TLU's YouTube channel will be available starting Dec. 4.



Christmas Caroling 2020 to be held December 13

Christmas caroling will look a little different this year, but we are a resilient bunch and we can brighten the season for our shut-ins by doing our best to bring them some Christmas cheer.

The decision has been made to meet at the church on Sunday, December 13, 2020, at 3pm. Social distancing and mask protocols will be followed. A poinsettia will be given to each of our shut-ins. For further details and to be included in the caroling, please contact Sandra Post.

Gifts to be given for Christmas Eve service

For the Christmas Eve service this year, members and friends will have the opportunity to give gifts in memory of or in honor of family members and friends. In addition to poinsettias that will be used to beautify the Gathering Place during worship on Christmas Eve, there will also be an opportunity to give a gift that will be sent to Lutheran Disaster Relief to help them in aiding victims of USA disasters. The cost for either gift is \$15. Checks should be made payable to St. Peter's. Please return the form that is available on line, or located on the table in the narthex, or from the church office, along with your check, in the offering plate by Sunday, December 6.

Christmas offering for Lutheran Disaster Relief

This year you can choose to give a Christmas offering to Lutheran Disaster Relief, earmarked for US disasters. Sponsored by the ELCA, Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, they stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need. They help around the world, but also in the US helping with hurricane response, wildfires, severe storms, COVID-19, tornadoes, floods and more. Lutheran Disaster Response strives to help the church continue to be church in the midst of disaster — following Christ's call to bring hope and healing to our neighbor in need. Some key areas of work include:

- Providing emotional and spiritual care for people who have been affected by a disaster and for leaders who respond to a disaster
- Coordinating volunteers through our local affiliates
- Assisting refugees in a holistic way by meeting the varied needs of the community
- Promoting disaster risk-reduction by helping communities build their assets thereby reducing the effects of likely disasters
- Providing long-term recovery efforts by addressing the unmet needs months or even years after a disaster strikes.

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Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2020

9am LWR Quilting Advent Midweek Worship Online

Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020

9am Worship/Communion, Drive in Worship, at The Gathering Place 10am Confirmation Class 3:30pm WELCA Christmas and gift exchange, at the Gathering Place

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2020

6:30pm Council Dinner Advent Midweek Worship Online

Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020

9am Christmas Program, in the Sanctuary, followed by Congregational meeting, at the Gathering Place 10am Confirmation Class 3pm Christmas Caroling

Monday, Dec. 14, 2020

Turn in all Newsletter articles to the office

Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020

9am LWR Quilting Advent Midweek Worship Online

Sunday, Dec. 20, 2020

9am Worship/Communion, in the Sanctuary

Thursday, Dec. 24, 2020

5:30pm Christmas Eve Drive in Service of Light, with communion, at The Gathering Place Friday, Dec. 25, 2020

Christmas Day — office closed

Saturday, Dec. 26, 2020 — Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020 Pastor Anne on Vacation

Sunday, Dec. 27, 2020

9am Christmas Hymnsing, Drive in Worship at The Gathering Place

Friday, Jan. 1, 2021 New Year's Day

Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021

9am Worship/Communion, in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021 9am LWR Quilting

Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021
6:30pm Worship and Music meeting



2020

Pastor's vacation

Pastor Anne will be on vacation December 26-31, 2020, returning to the office on January 1, 2021. If a pastoral emergency arises in that time, please call either Linda Koehler (361-645-4819) or Kathy Albrecht (361-645-2922) and they will help you get in contact with a pastor.

December 31 final postmark for 2020 gifts

Please remember that all offerings sent through the mail to St. Peter's, that are to be recorded as given in 2020, must be postmarked on or before December 31, 2020.

Sign-up to provide altar flowers on 2021 Flower Calendar



The 2021 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 if you wish this information to be included in the bulletin for that Sunday.



Next Bible study and meeting to be held on Jan. 12

Plans for the next Women of the ELCA regular monthly meeting and Bible study, that will be held on January 12, will be announced in the January Newsletter. Information on Bible study, along with time and location, will also be provided in the January Newsletter. Please plan to join us!

Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kit items are being collected. See the listing of needed items below or pick up a card on the box in the narthex for items needed to fill the LWR personal care kits. When you go shopping, please remember to purchase and donate only the items listed in this article and on the card, no additional items or substitutes. Place your purchased items in the box labeled "Personal Care Kit Supplies for Lutheran World Relief" located in the narthex. Complete kits, kit items, or money for the purchase of items may be donated. When making a donation for supplies, please write "LWR Kits" on your offering envelope.

Other on-going projects include "Quilts," where donated fabric and sheets are always needed and greatly appreciated. All of the Lutheran World Relief kit items listed on page 33 of the 2020 St. Peter's Yearbook.

Donations for shipping of LWR items may also be made by writing on your offering envelope "LWR shipping fund," or by picking up a special envelope on the table in the narthex.

We appreciate your help in providing the needed items and monetary donations to support St. Peter's Lutheran World Relief.

PERSONAL CARE KIT SUPPLIES:

One light- to medium-weight, full-size bath towel **Two** bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap in original wrapping

One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging (multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business -size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap

One sturdy comb, remove packaging
One metal nail clippers (with or without attached file), remove packaging

WELCA Christmas party adapted for COVID 19 to be held December 6

The traditional Christmas party for St. Peter's women will have a new look this year! We want everyone to remain safe, so special plans are being made for us to gather to share Christmas gift exchange and refreshments while using "social distancing" and face covering.

This women's only Christmas social will be held at The Gathering Place on Sunday, December 6, at 3:30pm. We will enjoy Christmas music, refreshments served in a way that insures food safety, and have a new way of doing Bingo with a Christmas theme. Each women attending is asked to bring a beverage of their choice and a gift for the gift exchange, with a gift value of no more than \$15. So find a fun gift appropriate for your lady friends and come prepared for fun.

The sound system will be set up, so those who prefer to participate from inside their cars are invited to do so. All the rules that we use at our Sunday drive-in worship will be in place.

Remember to mark the date on your calendar for a relaxing afternoon filled with lots of Christmas spirit!

Annual Thankoffering Service held November 15

Thankoffering service for St. Peter's was held on Sunday, November 15. It was a very windy morning, but thanks to the combined efforts of St. Peter's safety, worship and music, ushers and worship leaders, the worship service went on.

Guest speaker, Sherry Sanders, an ELCA Authorized Lay Parish Minister and member of St. Peter's, presented the very thought provoking message for the day.

There is a rich tradition of thanking God for his many blessings through giving at the Thankoffering service. It is generous giving that enables Women of the ELCA to share our faith locally and globally. The offering for the day totaled \$436.

Thank you to everyone for their generous offerings and faithful service that made the Women of the ELCA Thankoffering celebration another caring and memorable event for 2020.



One hundred boxes, weighing 2,043 pounds, were delivered to St. John Lutheran Church in Marion by Tom and Jackie Gardiner and Ray and Kathy Albrecht. The quilts and kits that have been constructed and collected for the past year and a half totaled—304 quilts,108 personal care kits, 217 school kits, 72 baby care kits and 4 sewing kits.

Thank you again to Zion Lutheran of Helotes and St. John Lutheran of Marion for being drop off points for the 2020 LWR Ingathering. Here are the totals for our synod for 2020: Quilts-9574, School kits-5870, Personal Care kits-3277, Baby Care kits-1584, Fabric kits-214 Good job churches! This is indeed God's Work Our Hands! Blessings to you all!

Thank You—

On behalf of Cross Trails Ministry, I would like to thank you for the generous gift of \$500.00 dated September 30, 2020 and received October 29, 2020. 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 and retreats 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

Time for the Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is a symbol of watchfulness and increasing joy as we anticipate Jesus' birth.

The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, which is made of various evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God and the everlasting life we find in Christ. The candles remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World. On each of the four Sundays of Advent, we light another candle; as the light grows, so does our hope and joy.

2021 Yearbook for St. Peter's to be printed end of December

Preparations for printing the 2021 St. Peter's Yearbook has begun. Please take a moment to check your address and phone information and any other family members' information in the 2020 St. Peter's Yearbook. If corrections are necessary, and you have not already notified the church office, please contact us by December 7. Listings of worship leaders to be published in the 2021 yearbook, including ushers and greeters, offering counters, etc., will be the same as printed in the 2020 yearbook, unless you notify the office by December 7 to include or remove your name. If you want to serve as a worship leader, your help is greatly needed. Please contact Sandra Post, usher and greeter coordinator, if you want to serve as an usher; Lindsey Youngblood, offering counter coordinator, if you want to help with counting the offering; committee chairperson, if you want to serve on a committee or in any other way. Your help with gathering the correct information for publishing in the 2021 yearbook is greatly appreciated.

Preparation for St. Peter's Annual Congregational Meeting part II

The Annual Congregational Meeting for St. Peter's Lutheran Church (part 2) will be held in February.

In January, the church office will be collecting and compiling individual reports from the council president, council committee chairs, treasurer, memorial committee, Women of the ELCA president and treasurer, and any other reports from activities that St. Peter's has participated in during the year of 2020. If you have a report for St. Peter's Annual Report, please submit it to the church office on or before January 10, 2021.

Printed copies of 2020 reports, as well as an agenda, will be prepared and available to pick-up and review on the Sunday prior to the meeting. If you pick-up a copy to read before the meeting, please remember to bring it back for the meeting. If you want to receive the annual report by email, please contact the office and you will receive the report when available.

Thank you for your help!

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)



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

12-01 Laura Sue Rogers

12-06 Brian Willms

12-07 Delbert McCullough

12-16 Fritz Sturm

12-17 Barrett Irwin

12-18 Kora Brandes

12-18 Paisley Post

12-20 Allison Ball

12-23 Brynnley Bates

12-24 Brent Dornburg

12-25 Wanda Schendel

12-26 Wylie Tislow

12-26 Vicki Wimberly

12-27 Ryan Klinkerman

12-28 Luke Taylor

12-29 Tuffy Dornburg



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

12-9-06 Greta & Leo Henke

12-10-71 Kathy & Ray Albrecht

12-10-16 Megan & Tyler Tislow

12-12-64 Valerie & Gayle Albrecht

12-19-92 Terri Lynn & Brent Dornburg

12-20-08 Vicki & W.A. Wimberly

12-23-61 Leota & Paul Romine

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



St. Peter's Ander



Season Rejoice

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship: 9:00am

Holy Communion: every Sunday service that is not lay-led. (provide your own communion elements during COVID-19.)

St. Peter's Ministry Fund Update Through October 31, 2020

Ministry fund beginning balance, January 1, 2020 \$58,080.63

Offerings \$165,760.24

Cost of ministries \$156,687.14

Ministry fund ending balance, October 31, 2020 \$67,153.73

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.



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

FRIENDS —

Troy Allen – friend of Pat McDonald
Mia Balko – friend of Karie Wimberly
E. J. Bammert – friend of community
Vergie Bitterly – sister of Deanna
Wacker

Paula Calhoun – mother of Mike Calhoun

Kim Curlee – friend of Karen Klinkerman

David Dohmann – friend of Allison and Wesley Ball

Denise Engle – friend of Amy Wilburn **Greg Fore** – friend of the Sturms

Joyce Foster – grandmother of Shelby Foster

Family of Daniel Garcia – brother-inlaw of Janet Garcia

Ainsley Garza – cousin of Arlene DeForest and Eva Nell Griffith

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

Dale Henderson – father of Margaret Luker

Gwen Honor – mother of Linnea Griffith
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 – son of Clint and
Sherry Kickendahl

Joe Ladeairus – father of Regina Calhoun

Melvin Luker – grand father of Ryan Luker

Jo Nell Martin – friend of Debbie Foster

Michael McLead – uncle of Nathan Irwin

Doris Moore - cousin of Fritz Sturm

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

Charles Nixon – brother of Fritz &
Geraldine Sturm's daughter-in-law
Carolyn Nunley – cousin of Alvin

Carolyn Nunley – cousin of Alvin DeForest and Sis DeForest

Mary Poppert – sister of Ina DeForest and Alvin DeForest

Marcus Rezendez – friend of Amy Wilburn

George Robin – cousin of Linda Koehler

Susan Calhoun Rosello – cousin of Mike Calhoun

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

Stefani Soper – friend of Karen Klinkerman

Zach Sturm – great grandson of Fritz and Geraldine Sturm

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

Mary Nell Young – friend of Ruby and Allen Jank

Email Prayer Chain information

An email prayer chain is available at St. Peter's. When there is a prayer need/request, simply contact the church office by phone or email and ask to have it included on the prayer chain. Make sure you have the person's permission to put them on the prayer chain before adding them.

How do you start receiving these prayer requests? Simply contact Pastor Anne or the church office and ask to be signed up on the list.

Office hours for Pastor

regular office hours. She is in the office on Tuesday mornings, Wednesday afternoons, and Saturday mornings.

If you need to contact her at other times she is, of course, always available by phone or email, and available to schedule home visits (outside) as needed.

REMEMBER TO CONTACT

Pastor Anne by email at revsplca@gmail.com, or by texting or calling her at 361-676-4799, 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 1545 E. FM 1961 Goliad, TX 77963-3414

Phone: 361-645-2922

E-mail: stpetersander@gmail.com

www.stpetersander.org

The Rev. Anne Kolmeier, pastor

Phone: 361-676-4799

E-mail: revsplca@gmail.com

December

FLOWERS

12-6 open

12-13 Fritz & Geraldine Sturm

12-20 open

12-24 Congregation

12-27 open





May God fill your life with joy, love, and peace this Christmas Season and throughout the





Christmas Eve Service Gifts to St. Peter's



For the Christmas Eve service at St. Peter's this year, members and friends of the congregation will have the opportunity to give gifts in memory or in honor of family members and friends.

In addition to Poinsettias that will be used to beautify the Gathering Place during worship on Christmas Eve, there will also be an opportunity to give a gift that will be sent to Lutheran Disaster Relief to help them in aiding victims of USA disasters.

All gifts — both Poinsettias and Lutheran Disaster Relief — will be acknowledged in the Christmas Eve service bulletin. The cost for either gift is \$15 each. Checks should be made payable to St. Peter's Lutheran Church. All flowers for Christmas Eve should be ordered through the church. Please return this form with your check in the offering plate or to the church office no later than Sunday, December 6.

Name (of person giving gift):		
Lutheran Disaster Relief Poinsettia	In Honor	In Memory
Name(s) of those being honored/memorialized		
Name (of person giving gift):		
Lutheran Disaster Relief Poinsettia	In Honor	In Memory
Name(s) of those being honored/memorialized		
Name (of person giving gift):		
Lutheran Disaster Relief Poinsettia	In Honor	In Memory
Name(s) of those being honored/memorialized		
Name (of person giving gift):		
Lutheran Disaster Relief Poinsettia	In Honor	In Memory
Name(s) of those being honored/memorialized		