



the CROSSWORD

Volume 18 Number 12

December 2023

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FOR YOUR CALENDARS:



ADVENT SERVICES

begin on Wednesday, November 29. Once again we join with Christ in the Country for a fellowship meal at

6:00 pm, with a worship service at 7:00 pm.

The theme this year is "How a Baby Changed the World." The schedule for these services:

November 29 - Zion, Arneckeville

Day and Hour Unknown (message)

December 6 - St. Peter's, Ander

John the Baptist and Mrs. Nolan

December 13 - Martin Luther, Coletoville

God's Will for Your Life

December 20 - St. Luke's, Schroeder

How a Baby Changed the World

Plan now to join us as we set aside time in our Christmas preparations to remember who started it all!

The **CHRISTMAS EVE** candlelight worship will be at 5:30 pm on Sunday, December 24. Join us in the sanctuary for this service of communion, carols and candlelight as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.



St. Peter's mission: To grow together as a Christian community in faith, worship and service.

Who do I Contact?

The Rev. Anne Kolmeier
Pastor

Dorothy Bowman
Organist and Choir Director

Jerry Kolmeier
Custodian

Congregation Council :

David Bowman
President
(term ends 12/31/23)

Billy Dornburg
Vice-President
Stewardship/Finance liaison
(term ends 12/31/24)

Gerald Griffith
Outreach liaison
(term ends 12/31/24)

Pat McDonald
Safety/Security liaison
(term ends 12/31/25)

Sandra Post
Worship/Music liaison
(term ends 12/31/25)

Terrell Wiggins
Property liaison
(term ends 12/31/25)

Wendi Yendrey
Christian Education and Youth
Ministry liaison
(term ends 12/31/24)

Lindsey Youngblood
Secretary
Christian Education and Youth
Ministry liaison
(term ends 12/31/23)



The **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**, Part I will be on Sunday, December 3 after the worship service. On the agenda are election of church council for 2024, and voting on the budget for 2024. All confirmed members have a voice and a vote, so help us plan the future of our congregation!



Once again, we come to this very special time of the year in which we celebrate and appreciate the birth of Jesus Christ. The youth of St. Peter's Lutheran invite you to their **Christmas service program** titled "The Amazing Story of Christmas," on Sunday December 17th at 9:00am. We hope to see you there!!!

CHRISTMAS CAROLING to our shut-in members and friends will be on Sunday, December 17. We will leave right after worship to carol at the nursing home, eat lunch at Whataburger, then go caroling around town and then in the country.

You may speak to Gerald Griffith if you need further details. We will be giving "goodie bags" to the people we carol to. **All members are invited to help by bringing goodies, such as packaged cookies, individually wrapped candy or sandwich crackers, or fruit (oranges, apples, pears) for the bags.** Please have items in the church kitchen by December 17, and we'll pack the bags after worship before we go caroling.



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

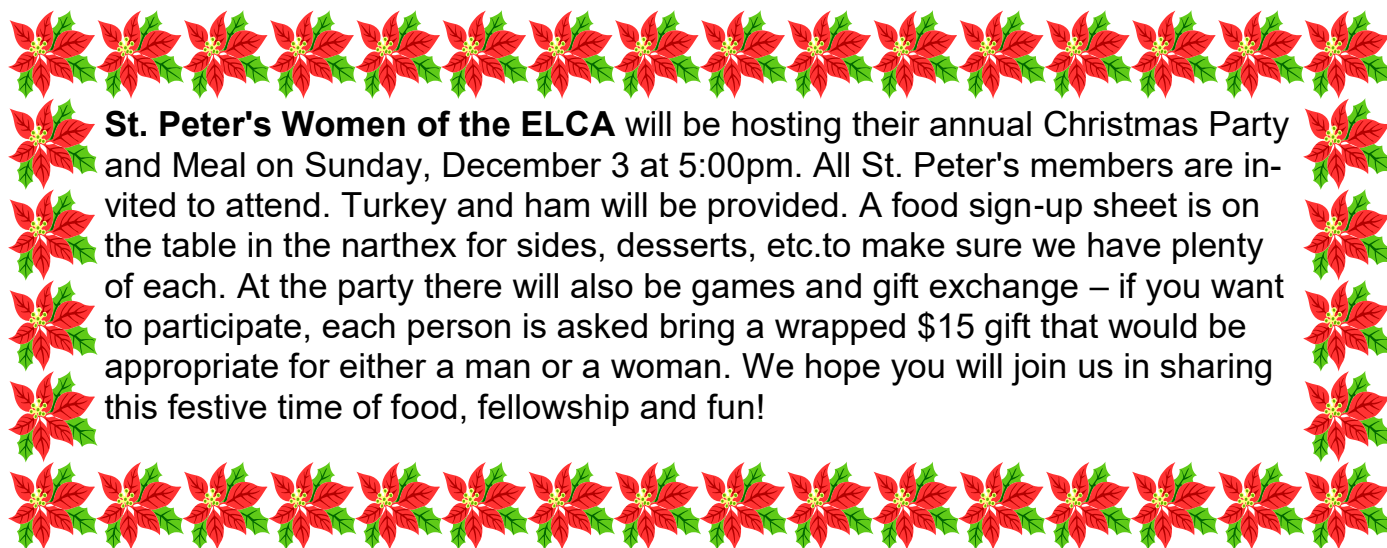
Women of the ELCA

WELCA OFFICERS for 2024:

President: Dorothy Bowman
Vice President: Beverly Martin
Secretary: Jackie Gardiner
Treasurer: Eva Nell Griffith

WELCA COMMITTEE CHAIRS for 2024:

Justice: Ruby Jank, Jackie Gardiner
Discipleship: Linda Dornburg
Stewardship: Brenda Bade



St. Peter's Women of the ELCA will be hosting their annual Christmas Party and Meal on Sunday, December 3 at 5:00pm. All St. Peter's members are invited to attend. Turkey and ham will be provided. A food sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex for sides, desserts, etc. to make sure we have plenty of each. At the party there will also be games and gift exchange – if you want to participate, each person is asked bring a wrapped \$15 gift that would be appropriate for either a man or a woman. We hope you will join us in sharing this festive time of food, fellowship and fun!

TxDOT HIGHWAY cleanup on our stretch of 1961 happens on Saturday, December 9. We will gather at 8:00 am and spread out over our two miles.

Vests and bags are provided. Wear sturdy shoes, and gloves and pick up sticks if you want them. Many helpers will make quick work of this project in our “neighborhood.”



Vacation

PASTOR ANNE AND JERRY will be on vacation December 26 - January 2. Should a pastoral emergency arise in that time, David Bowman can help you contact a pastor.



New Style of the Giving Envelopes

Starting in 2024, we will be using loose envelopes for giving, rather than envelope books. You may recall a survey in 2022 asking for feedback on this change, since many folks have changed their giving habits and most of envelopes in the booklets went unused. Based on the survey, the change was approved.

If you normally use the envelopes from your booklet, you will receive a packet of numbered, undated, loose envelopes in your folder in December, based on your regular giving frequency. These envelopes (not numbered) will also be available in each pew. If you did not get a packet, but would like one, please just let Jackie know. Whenever you run low on your supply, also let Jackie know and a new set will be provided. Since the envelopes are not dated, they can be carried over into subsequent years and we will hopefully generate very little waste. Any questions, just give Jackie a call.



On Oct. 25, a representative from GVEC dropped by and gave us this check - a grant for them for making our Gathering Place accessible to the handicapped and more usable for community gatherings. We were one of only 8 recipients. Thank you, GVEC!

FOR
UNTO US
A CHILD
IS BORN

Checking Account Report as of 10-31-2023

	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Beginning Balance	\$ 78,375.08	\$ 156,253.14
Income	\$ 77,191.08	\$ 288,422.46
Expenses	\$ 59,928.27	\$ 349,037.71
Ending Balance	\$ 95,637.89	\$ 95,637.89



CHURCH COUNCIL met on November 19. Highlights of that meeting are:

- It was noted that the ministry fund was the lowest it has been in years. While this is probably due to funds being given to the construction project instead, we need to be mindful of it not getting too low.
- It was approved that we share a seminary intern with the congregations of Christ in the Country. The internship will be part time for 18 months beginning in January. We will have the intern for about 5 hours a week. What she does where and when will be worked out between the intern and the two pastors. The \$2,500 cost for 2024 will be taken from local benevolence.
- Outreach proposed that, in the absence of Silver Santa this year, we have a St. Peter's Angel Tree for 10 families (52 children) to which people can donate needed gifts, using suggestions from the families. Council approved up to \$5,000 be used from local benevolence to purchase toys not donated by congregation members.
- The end of year local benevolence distribution was approved with \$1,000 going to the Goliad Food Bank, \$1,000 to the Goliad County Ministerial Alliance, \$500 to the Fannin Food Pantry and \$500 to the Goliad County Senior Citizen's Center.
- \$16,328.50 was raised at Oktoberfest for Crosstrails. From that, \$1,694.44 will be reimbursed to the general fund for monies used to build the arts and crafts building at Ebert Ranch. The rest will be presented to Crosstrails early next year.
- The total funds that needed to be borrowed from the loan for the Gathering Place improvements was \$171,000. The monthly payment will be \$1,035.00
- It was decided that Oktoberfest would be handed over to Outreach to form an official committee so that there is someone directly coordinating and overseeing the event.
- The proposed 2024 budget was approved to present to the congregation. The lean budget this year reflects the diminished offerings to the general fund.



NOISY OFFERING UPDATE:

The Noisy Offering for October was \$85.22, given to Goliad Pet Adoption.

The **November** Noisy Offering on November 26 will go the ELCA Good Gifts/Disaster Assistance.

The **December** Noisy Offering will go to the Goliad Rotary Club.





Birthdays

December 1	Laura Rogers	December 24	Brent Dornburg
December 6	Brian Willms	December 25	Wanda Schendel
December 7	Delbert McCullough	December 26	Wylie Tislow
December 16	Fritz Sturm	December 26	Vickie Wimberly
December 17	Barrett Irwin	December 27	Ryan Klinkerman
December 18	Kora Brandes	December 27	Tracer Schendel
December 18	Paisley Post	December 28	Luke Taylor
December 20	Allison Ball	December 29	Tuffy Dornburg
December 23	Brynnley Bates		



Happy Anniversary!

December 9, 2006
Leo and Greta Henke

December 10, 1971
Ray and Kathy Albrecht

December 10, 2016
Tyler and Megan Tislow

December 19, 1992
Brent and Terri Lynn Dornburg

December 20, 2008
Vickie and W.A. Wimberly

December 23, 1961
Paul and Leota Romine



IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers



Deran Abernathy - friend of
Margaret Luker

David Blevins - Cousin of
Alvin & Ina DeForest

Terra Brand - Terrell
Wiggins' niece

Mike Buckert - friend of
Debbie Foster

Joyce Foster - grandmother
of Shelby Foster

Ainsley Garza - friend of the
DeForests

***Barry Geary**-church family
member ([homebound](#))

***Bob Gerhardt** - church family
member

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

Olga Guttierrez - friend of
Ruby Jank

Tony Haschke - brother of
Beverly Martin and
Brenda Foil

Dale Henderson - Margaret
Luker's dad.

Bonnie Holland - friend of
Linnea Griffith

Patsy Hudson - Brenda
Bade's niece

Marjorie Ideus - mother of
Sherry Sanders

Ray Jaynes - friend of Pat
McDonald

Terry Karnei - brother of
Glenn Karnei

Melita Keith - friend of
Margaret Luker

Zac Koenig - friend of the
Lukers

Joe & Maureen Ladeairus –
parents of Regina
Calhoun

Dorothy Lude - Glenn Karnei's
aunt

Marvin Marcell - friend of
the Lukers

Jo Nell Martin - friend of
Debbie Foster & the
community

Lanie Milliff – friend of the
Posts

Randy Moore - friend of John
Helwig

***Tom Morris** - church family
member

Pauline Pollard - Karie
Wimberly's grandmother

Mary & Keith Poppert -
sister/brother-in-law
of Ina & Alvin DeForest

Marcos Rezendez - friend
of Amy Wilburn

James Rung - son of
Greta Henke's friend

Sara - niece of Eva Griffith

Pastor Craig Sturm -
nephew of Fritz Sturm

Jay Thigpen - friend of
Brandes family

Dusty Tullos - cousin of
Margaret Luker

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

***Mike Wilburn** - church
family member

Betty Williams - mother of
Carrie DeForest

Buddy & Mary Nell Young
friends of the
community

Patsy Zandonatti - cousin
of Beverly Martin and
Brenda Foil

REMEMBER TO CONTACT

Pastor Anne by email:
revsplca@gmail.com, or by tex-
ting or
calling her at
361-676-4799,
with St. Peter's prayer list up-
dates, the person's current
needs, or when they can be
removed from the list.



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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 MINISTERS OF WORSHIP

Fellowship Committee:
Jackie Gardiner
Eva Nell Griffith

Altar Guild:
Jackie Gardiner and
Sandra Post

Offering Counters:
Lindsey Youngblood
(1st, 15th, 29th)
Shelby Torres (8th &
22nd)
Sandy Sanders

Flowers for the altar:
12-3
12-10 Jim and Beverly
Martin
12-17 Geraldine Sturm
12-24 Poinsettias
12-31



Greeters:
12-3 Brenda Bade
12-10 Garrison Jarzombek
12-17 Debbie Foster
12-24 Gerald Griffith
12-31 Sherry Sanders

Ushers:
12-3 Aldon Bade
12-10 Paul Post, Karolynn Youngblood
12-17
12-24 Paul Post, Glenn Karnei
12-31



December 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Pr. Deanery Christmas 4pm	2
3 Worship 9 am Congreg. Mtg. 10:15 Christmas Party 5pm <i>GP Reserved 6-8</i>	4 Pr. Sabbath Day	5	6 Meal 6 pm Worship 7 pm <i>In Ander</i> Choir after worship	7	8	9
10 Worship 9 am Toy wrapping 10:15 am	11 Pr. Sabbath Day	12	13 Meal 6 pm Worship 7 pm <i>in Coletoville</i>	14 Pr. Pericope St. 10 am	15	16
17 Christmas Prog. Worship 9 am Carolling	18 Pr. Sabbath Day	19	20 Meal 6 pm Worship 7 pm <i>In Schroeder</i>	21	22	23
24 Worship 9 am Worship 5:30 pm	25 CHRISTMAS	26 _____	27 Pastor Vacation	28 _____	29 _____	30 _____
31 Worship 9 am						

Oktoberfest

October 29, 2023



