



the CROSS WORD

Volume 20 Number 2

February 2025

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EQUIPPING THE SAINTS, the Bluebonnet Conference's annual learning event, is different this year! It is especially geared to small rural congregations, and will share ways to reach out to our communities, as well as the increased role of lay leaders in ministry in congregations.

There will be no workshops to divide into, but two speakers from two different seminaries will talk to us and lead discussion groups among us – a time to share with other small rural congregations. This is what we've been begging synod for, and they are responding – a renewed focus on rural ministry!

It is important that our leaders and members participate, especially in light of this year's coming pastoral transition.

The event is Saturday, February 1, 2025 at United Dr. Martin Luther Church in Shiner, from 9:00 - 3:30 pm (lunch provided). Info on registration is in the narthex (and was in the January 19 bulletin). Registration is all online, but if you want to fill one out and give it to pastor, she will register you.

Let's gather with others to celebrate the ministries of rural congregations, and get ideas on how to make our ministry even better!

Equipping the Saints

Flipping the Script

Equipping the Saints



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, Part 2**, is scheduled for Sunday, February 2, following the worship service.

On the agenda is the approval of the recipient for Oktoberfest funds, and review of annual reports. The annual reports will be available to pick up by January 26. Please read them ahead of time and bring them with you to the meeting.

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 :

Kenneth Brand
Property liaison
(term ends 12/31/2026)

Sarah Brandes
Christian Education liaison
(term ends 12/31/2026)

Cody Foil
Stewardship/Finance liaison
(term ends 12/31/27)

Debbie Foster
Secretary

Worship/Music Liaison
(term ends 12/31/27))

Pat McDonald
Gathering Place liaison
(term ends 12/31/25)

Sandra Post
President
(term ends 12/31/25))

Terrell Wiggins
Vice President
Safety/Security liaison
(term ends 12/31/25)

Jarrett Yendrey
Outreach Liaison
(term ends 12/31/24)



WE WORK AT THE GOLIAD OUT-REACH FOOD PANTRY on Wednesday, February 5 (postponed from January).

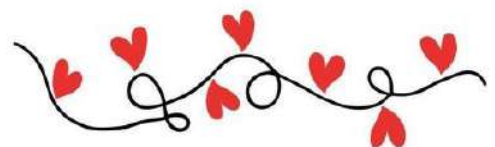
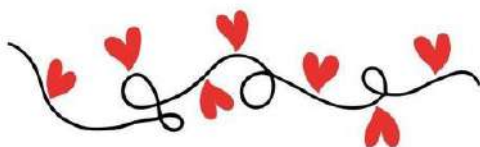
We will gather at the pantry at 8:30 am to pack 150+ bags with food for people in need to pick up the next day. Any help you can give is appreciated!

YEARBOOK

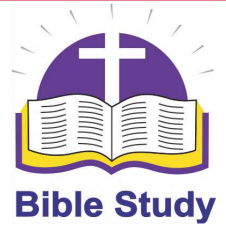
2025 YEARBOOKS were sent out in January in PDF form to all with an email address. There are also printed copies available in the narthex for those who want them. **Please check YOUR information** now and let us know of any corrections.

SAVE THE DATE! A celebration of St. Peter's 150th anniversary is scheduled for MARCH 30, 2025. There will be a special worship service, a slide show of events through our history, and a catered meal.

We'd like to send invitations to **former members and others who were baptized/confirmed here** ... if you have a child/grandchild who has moved away, or information on former members, please send their email addresses to the church office (or their physical address if they don't have email!) We'd like to get these invitations out by February 15!



ADULT BIBLE STUDY will gather on Wednesdays February 12 and 26 at 6:30 pm to continue our study on *Joshua, Fighting the Worry Battle*. Join us for study, discussion and fellowship as we learn about God active in our lives.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA Bible study is February 6, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. We will be starting our study on *Faithfulness* using the *January* study from the Gather Magazine, *Faith Where you Are*. Copies of the study are available in Linda Dornburg's folder the Sunday before if you plan on coming and want to read ahead.

WELCA GENERAL MEETING follows the Bible Study at 11:00 a.m. Join us as we plan our ministries and activities for 2025.

FEBRUARY QUILTING DAY is Wednesday, February 19. If you can tie a knot, pin, sew, tear or talk, you are invited to join us (men and women) for fun and fellowship as we make quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

Stone soup will be made and shared for lunch, if you want to bring something to put in it or to go with it.



Heavenly Father, as I reflect on the gift of love this Valentine's Day, I am reminded of your abundant blessings in my life. Thank you for the love that enriches my soul and fills my heart with joy. Bless my relationships with your grace and guidance, nurturing growth and deepening connections. May your love be the foundation of all that we do, inspiring us to love one another as You have loved us.

Colossians 3:14 "And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."





Believe it or not, Valentine's Day is not just about flowers and chocolate. While those sentiments for our loved ones are certainly sweet, the history of Valentine's Day is what makes it so special. This day of love is actually named after a real and holy saint. San Valentino (St. Valentine) was a Third Century Roman priest and martyr during the reign of Claudius II, known as Claudius the Goth. He was arrested for helping Christians who were being persecuted by Claudius in Rome and for performing marriage ceremonies between young Christian couples in love. While imprisoned and under threat, Saint Valentine would not sway from answering questions of the Emperor regarding his beliefs.

The emperor tried to no avail to convert Saint Valentine. Regardless of what was asked, however, Valentine would not renounce his faith so Claudius had him sent away to prison. The guard where Valentine was imprisoned listened as he preached day in and day out. As the legend goes, the guard, Asterius, had a daughter who was blind. He asked Valentine to hear her confession, which he did. Afterwards, Valentine put his hands over the girl's eyes and chanted: "Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten your handmaid, because You are God, the True Light." Immediately the little girl regained her eyesight. Because of this miracle, the guard and many of his family members converted to Christianity and were baptized. Upon hearing of the conversions, Emperor Claudius condemned all of them to death.

The night before his execution, Valentine wrote the young girl a note and signed it, "From your Valentine." Valentine was then beaten with clubs, stoned and finally beheaded on February 14th, around the year 269. He was buried on the Flaminian Way (an ancient Roman road) where a chapel was later built over his remains. On the same day, another Valentine, bishop of Terni, was imprisoned and beheaded by Placidus, prefect of Terni, about sixty miles outside of Rome. Many believe mysteriously that the two are one and the same priest — the same Valentine who was earlier brought to Rome for execution and buried on the Flaminian Way.



♥ happy ♥
Valentine's
♥ day ♥

Checking Account Report as of 12-31-2024

	Monthly	Year-To-Date
Beginning Balance	\$ 82,613.22	\$ 146,150.94
Income	\$ 64,542.82	\$ 317,263.60
Expenses	\$ 39,709.99	\$ 355,968.49
Ending Balance	\$ 107,446.05	\$ 107,446.05



Thank you for the love and generosity you showed us with your very special Christmas gift this year. It has been an honor and joy to be part of the St. Peter's family, and we appreciate you remembering us at Christmas.

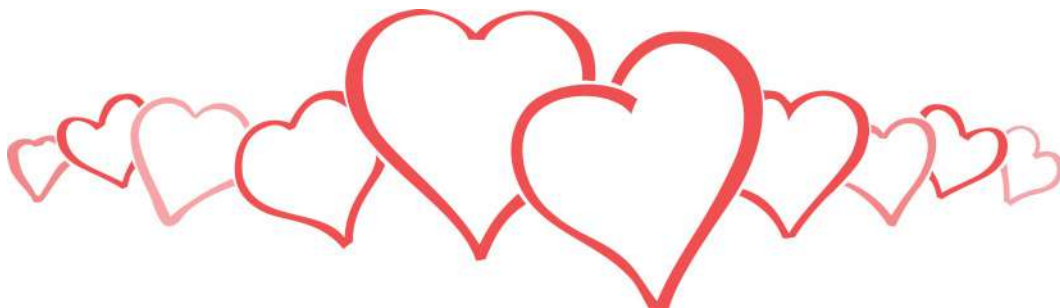
~ *Pastor Anne and Jerry*

Thank you for your very generous donation in the amount of \$15,558.50. Our organization is extremely grateful for your donation. Help such as yours enables us to achieve our goal of helping people in need of food in the Goliad County area. Thank you once again for the generous donation, it is truly appreciated.

~ *Tony Kouba, President, Goliad county Outreach*

I just want to say thank you for all the help and presents for the kids! They all loved what they got especially my daughter! She loved all her girly stuff. I appreciate it so much! Wishing you and your family and the rest of the church a happy new year.

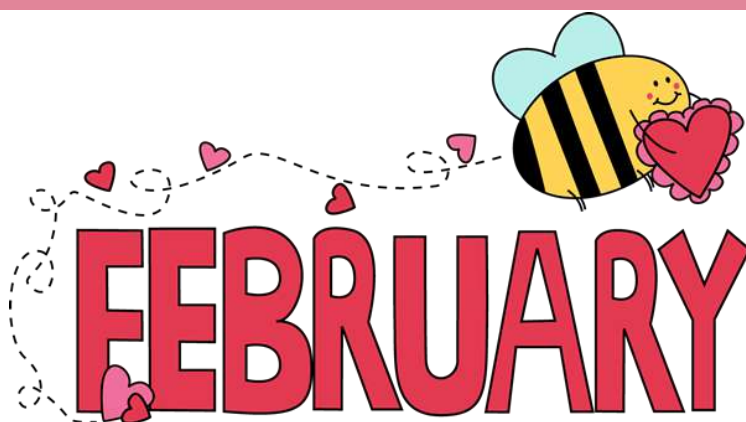
~ *From an Angel Tree Family*



THE NOISY OFFERING received in December totaled \$60.98 for the St. Peter's Local Outreach.

The January 26 noisy offering will go Lutheran Disaster Relief.

The February 23 noisy offering will go to the Goliad County Library.



Birthdays

February 1	Cody Foil	February 8	Wendi Yendrey
February 2	Ray Schneider	February 9	Paul Romine
February 2	Grace Griffith	February 11	David Bowman
February 2	Troy Geary	February 12	Colin Burke
February 2	Nick Smith	February 12	Lyle Schendel
February 2	Amy Wilburn	February 13	Barry Geary
February 4	Brooklyn Odem	February 24	Krayleigh Irwin
February 8	Jessica Griffith	February 28	Ainsley Yendrey
February 8	Jerry Kolmeier	February 29	Zaynee Parma



Adam and Danielle Egg
2/15/13

Jenny and Sunny Wiggins
2/21/09

Deborah and Ronnie Willms
2/27/93



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

Gay Bruns - sister-in-law of
Deanna Wacker

Joyce Foster - grandmother
of Shelby Foster

Ainsley Garza - friend of the
DeForests

***Barry Geary**-church family
member (homebound)

***Allison Gerhardt**—church f
amily member

***Bob Gerhardt** - church family
member (nursing home)

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

Linnea Griffith - assoc.
member

Kohen Hattenbach - niece of
Tyler and Megan Tislow

Dale Henderson - Margaret
Luker's dad

Sandra Hoff - former member

Patsy Hudson - Brenda Bade's
niece

Terry Karnei - brother of
Glenn Karnei

Melita Keith - friend of
Margaret Luker

Zac Koenig - friend of the
Lukers

Maureen Ladeairus – mother.
of Regina Calhoun

***Jim Martin**—church f
family member

Jo Nell Martin - friend of Deb
bie Foster & the community

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

Pauline Pollard - Karie Wim-
berly's grandmother

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

Paul Romine - Aldon Bade's
brother-in-law

Sara - niece of Eva Griffith

Danny Salazar—friend of
Glenn Karnei

Kenneth Sanders - Sandy's
Brother

***Sandy Sanders** - church f
amily member

Joan Searcy - sister-in-law to
Geraldine Sturm

Ava Soliz - friend of the
community

Gloria Stehling - Marilyn
Moreland's aunt

Jay Thigpen - friend of
Brandes family

Rose Trevino—friend of
Jamie Friedrichs

Dusty Tullos - cousin of
Margaret Luker

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

Jordan Wise - friend of the
Wimberlys

Buddy Young - friend of the
community

REMEMBER TO CONTACT

Pastor Anne by email:

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

FEBRUARY MINISTERS OF WORSHIP

Altar Guild:
Eva Nell Griffith

Offering Counters:
Billy Dornburg
Lindsey Youngblood

Flowers for the altar:
2-4
2-11
2-18
2-25



Greeters:
2-4 Jill Wiggins
2-11 Jill Wiggins
2-18 Sandra Post
2-25 Sandra Post

Ushers:
2-4 Paul Post, Terrell Wiggins
2-11 Paul Post, Terrell Wiggins
2-18 Jim & Beverly Martin
2-25 Jim & Beverly Martin



February 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Equipping Saints in Shiner 8:30-3:30
2 Worship 9 am Annual Mtg 2 9:15	3 Pr. Sabbath Day	4	5 Food Pantry Work 8:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm	6 WELCA study 10am WELCA mtg 11 am	7	8
9 Worship 9 am Conf Class 10:15	10 Pr. Sabbath Day	11 Conf Class 4:30 pm	12 Bible Study 6:30 pm	13 Pr. Pericope Study 10 am Victoria	14	15
16 Worship 9 am Council 10:15	17 Pr. Sabbath Day	18	19 Quilting 9 am	20 Pr. Deanery in Schroeder 10 am Worship/Music 6:30	21	22
23 Worship 9 am Conf. Class 10:15	24 Pr. Sabbath Day	25 Conf Class 4:30 pm	26 Bible Study 6:30 pm	27	28	

