

# LIFE TOGETHER

St Peter's Lutheran Church  
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Pastor Richard (Rick) Shives  
301-268-6468  
[reconcilingpastor@gmail.com](mailto:reconcilingpastor@gmail.com)

April 2019

Pastor: Richard (Rick) Shives  
Church Secretary: Carolyn Aleshire  
Organist: Judy Wise  
Custodian: Dot Gruber

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector ~ JoAnn Peterson  
Ushers ~ Karen Peterson  
Communion Assistant ~ Bob & JoAnn Peterson



From the Pastor's Pen



Dear St. Peter's Family

Blessings of the Easter Season to you,

The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on Easter changed the lives of his followers and continues to change the lives of all Christians everywhere forever. Easter brings with it hope and love. Easter assures us that Christ is alive and with us. Easter offers forgiveness and life eternal with him. This is the awesome power of the Resurrected Christ.

Our Lord Jesus sent out his disciples telling them not to be afraid but to go and tell others the Good News. Two of them, Philip and James did go—Philip to Asia Minor (modern day Turkey) and James to Judea. Both were later martyred for their faith.

Our Lord Jesus continues to tell us, "Do not be afraid; I am with you. Think about that, no matter where you are, no matter the circumstance Jesus is always with you. Jesus tells us still today, as he did his disciples then, go and tell others about God's love." We probably will not have to face martyrdom as Philip and James did, but we do need to go forth and share our Lord's love with others.

We are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Let us go forth and share the Good News."

May the peace of the Lord be with you this Easter and Always.

**Pr. Rick**



**APRIL at ST. PETER'S**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>**

Lenten Services

Light meal 6:00 PM, followed by worship service

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>**

Palm Sunday

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>**

Women of the Church meeting after church service

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>**

Maundy Thursday Service with Foot Washing 7:00 PM

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>**

Good Friday Service 7:00 PM

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>**

Easter Sunday

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup>**

Newsletter information due ~ [stpeters.luth.clsp@verizon.net](mailto:stpeters.luth.clsp@verizon.net)

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>**

Council meeting after church service

**Date TBD**

Lunch Bunch ~ Green Turtle @ 11:30 AM

**APRIL CELEBRATION**



1<sup>st</sup> John Grossnickle  
10<sup>th</sup> Gage & Blake Crampton  
12<sup>th</sup> Eva Gearhart  
21<sup>st</sup> James Myers  
24<sup>th</sup> Brittany Stout



**APRIL'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Lector ~ JoAnn Peterson

Communion Assistant ~ Karen Peterson

Ushers ~ Bob & JoAnn Peterson



**MAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Lector ~ Karen Peterson

Ushers ~ Glenna Hull, Pat Linton

Communion Assistant ~ Wayne Gruber

# Children's Sermon for March



## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

There will be a Property Committee meeting on Sunday, April 14 after church services in the Fellowship Hall. Members are: Wayne Gruber, Glenna Hull, Pat Litton, Bob Peterson, Brad Peterson, Stefan Shingleton, Gary/Linda Wigfield, Rick Wise, John/Nancy Younker.

We will be discussing the following:

Cemetery and Church/Parsonage cleanup before mowing starts

Trim shrubs

Mulch shrub beds in front of Church/Fellowship Hall

Patch uneven concrete sidewalks

Unclog gutter - left front of Parsonage

Repair and paint side doors of Church

Glue/secure step treads - back hall

Drain and install new bleeders on boiler system for Church

Repair garage door opener

Reattach storm door bracket - front door of parsonage

Clean out garage

Paint Kids room

Work on parsonage as time allows

Replace Fellowship doors

## Enjoying lunch at House of Kobe



## PARSONAGE CLEANUP DAY

The children are still full of energy and was ready for pizza afterwards!  
(Not In pictures but helped with the cleanup was Bob Peterson and Linda)



**St. Peter's Lutheran Church**  
**Council Meeting**  
**January 06, 2019**

This meeting was called to order at 10:50 am. In attendance were Pastor Rick, Rosie Vermeer, Karen Peterson, Judy Wise, Pat Bowman and our newest members, Ron Shives and Beth Smith. Karen led us in devotion.

Our first order of business was the assignment of officers for the next year. Our President will be Karen Peterson, Vice President – Beth Smith, Financial Secretary – Judy Wise and Secretary is Pat Bowman.

While Karen is still traveling to California, Ron will be making announcements after services on Sunday. Judy will be checking mail and routing it to the appropriate person. Pat will be taking weekly deposits to the bank on Sunday and Charmaine will be picking up the bank bag during the week.

The minutes from the December 9<sup>th</sup> congregation meeting and the December 9<sup>th</sup> council meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

The Treasure's and Financial Secretary's report were accepted as written.

#### PASTOR'S REPORT

- Pastor Rick reported 74 hours in service to our congregation. See attached. In reality he probably can't put an hourly count on his service.
- On January 27<sup>th</sup> he is going to request a free will offering for people facing a financial crisis. It can be in the form of cash or gift cards.
- What he was most excited to announce was from Bishop Gohl. It has been decided, at this time, to forgo the continuing education requirements for Pastor Rick and to install him as our permanent pastor. He will no longer be a rental. Hopefully this will be taking place in early spring.

SOCIAL OUTREACH - Nothing new. No recent meetings.

#### MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

- Oversaw the plaque to honor Linda and Gary Wigfield. Money for the plaque to come from the General Fund.

#### PROPERTY COMMITTEE

- The window in the parsonage has been replaced. The wall between the church and Fellowship Hall has been repaired and painted by the House Doctor.
- The old Second Time Around room needs painting so it can be used as a rec room for the FaithWeavers.
- We have a need to have the choir room checked for mold and mildew.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE - Nothing new.

## WORSHIP and MUSIC COMMITTEE

- A meeting is being held January 13<sup>th</sup> to plan for Lent and Easter and the rest of the year.
- We enjoyed a beautiful cantata on Christmas Eve.

## OLD BUSINESS

- It was voted on by the congregation to keep the parsonage and maintain for future use.
- We fixed sixteen gift bags for the kids and purchased gifts cards for our staff.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Our Bi-Annual congregation is being held February 17<sup>th</sup> with a snow date of February 17<sup>th</sup>. The women of the church are serving the meal.
- Pastor Rick is hoping we can join forces with St. Michael to work on a social outreach project for the community.
- We need to find a way to limit the Food Bank's staff and patrons access to the rest of the church building.
- Karen is going to have the Food Bank's hours of operation sign replaced.

## CORRESPONDENCE

- Payments to Brethren Mutual will stay as is.
- We will continue to support the Clear Spring Ambulance Company with our yearly donation.

The next meeting is February 17<sup>th</sup>.

Future meetings will be held the third Sunday of the month.

Beth will lead devotions at our February meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Bowman

## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The Women of the Church met on March 24<sup>th</sup> to finalize the Installation Reception for Pastor Rick on March 31<sup>th</sup>. The ladies collected 16 Health Kits for the homeless women in honor of the World Day of Prayer. They were delivered to Zion Lutheran in Williamsport who were collecting them. At our next meeting, which is scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup>, we will be discussing the Family Dinner, if, when and where we will be having it. Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
February 17, 2019**

Our meeting was called to order at 10:50 am. In attendance were Karen Peterson, Charmaine Canan, Rosie Vermeer, Ron Shives, Pastor Rick, Beth Smith, Judy Wise, and Pat Bowman. Beth led us in prayer.

The minutes from the January 6<sup>th</sup> Council meeting and the February 10<sup>th</sup> Bi-Annual Congregational meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

The Financial Secretary's report was also accepted as presented.

No Treasure's report.

#### PASTOR'S REPORT

- Pastor Rick reported 46 hours spent on church concern. See attached. We know it doesn't end there.
- He also informed us, along with his installation, he will be transferring his church membership to St. Peter's.
- He is going to continue Wednesday night Lenten services with a light meal before.

SOCIAL OUTREACH - Nothing new to report.

#### MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

- We took the lead in obtaining a plaque to honor Gary and Linda Wigfield for all their contributions. It was a gift from the entire congregation.
- We are still receiving contributions in memory of Janice Gearhart and John Eckstine. John wanted any donations in his name to go to a music program in the church, with an invitation extended to the community.

#### PROPERTY COMMITTEE

- Griffith Oil re-inspected the oil tank and found the structural integrity good enough to deliver oil to us. We need to check what kind of warranty we have on the new boiler.
- Beth has set March 10<sup>th</sup> as the day for the FaithWeavers to help clean the bottom floor of the parsonage, so we can use it for meetings in the future.

#### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

- Need to contact Dana to find out the proper steps to take to distribute our Emergency Funds.
- Our Lenten offering will be split 50-50 between the Food Bank and the Emergency Fund.

#### WORSHIP and MUSIC COMMITTEE

- They continue to get ready for Lent and Easter and Pastor Rick's installation.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- Pastor Rick is going to work on a program, for Safe Sanctuary, a training session he attended last April in Cumberland.
- Our Bi-Annual Congregational meeting was held in February.
- We are still looking for someone to do our snow removal.

## NEW BUSINESS

- It has been suggested to use the money that is left from the sale of the table and chairs to purchase exterior doors at the Sunday School entrance.
- We are still collecting money for the Community Emergency gift cards.

## CORRESPONDENCE

- We received a thank you note from Holly Place for the gift bags for Valentine's Day.

## CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

- We need to start making plans for the repair or replacement of the ceiling in the sanctuary.

The next meeting is March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Ron is going to lead us in devotions.

Our meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Bowman



...Everyone who helped with the Parsonage clean-up in March and especially the children who helped a great deal and done a wonderful job!

...To Gary and Linda for donating a replacement of the stove and dishwasher for the parsonage;

...To Beth, Jenny and Carol for all they do for and with the children;

...To all that has provided food and who have attended the Wednesday night Lenten services;

...To the Women of the Church who provided 16 health kits for the homeless and needy women in honor of the World Day of Prayer;

...To John for working tirelessly on the CD system in the bell tower in an attempt to having it playing again;

...To the Women of the Church and a few good men (John, Wayne, Gary W. and Carroll) who helped scrub and clean the kitchen, the Fellowship Hall and the sanctuary in preparation and setting up for Pastor Rick's installation celebration;

..To Kaye for the many hours of hard work that she put in to making Pastor Rick's celebration a wonderful success and to Judy and Glenna for helping with the invitations; to Beth and Judy and the choir for the music; to Carol (and Kaye) for the beautiful flower arrangements and to the Women of the Church for the selection of food; to Gary and Linda for the many trips to pick up the food and extra tables and chairs; to Judy who ordered the cakes and to EVERYONE who helped and done ANYTHING in making that day for Pastor Rick a beautiful day of remembrance!

## THE MINISTRY OF ST. PETER'S

Sunday afternoon, March 31, 2019, God entrusted the ministry of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church at 30 South Martin Street, Clear Spring, Maryland to Rev. Richard William Shives.

The Voices of St. Peter's choir sang "Thanks Be to Thee" by George Frideric Handel accompanied by Organist Judy Wise on piano.

Scripture from Exodus, Psalm 122, and Romans were read by Karen Peterson and Ron Shives.

Following the reading from Romans, The Rev. William Gohl, Bishop, ask the children to join him at the front and nine youngsters from age 3 to 11 arrived at the front. After explaining who he was and what he does, he asked the children what they thought of his Vestments. As he described each part of his vestments, from his Mitre to his Ring, he took it off and placed it on one of the children. The look on the children's faces as he placed one piece on each child was priceless.

Gospel Acclamation: May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Gal. 6:14 preceded the Holy Gospel from Matthew.

The Rev. William Gohl, Bishop of the Delaware/Maryland Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, opened the installation to a gathering of more than one hundred souls. At the beginning of the installation service Karen Peterson, council President, read the call: **We**, of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, after prayerful deliberation, have called Richard Shives to be our Pastor, and present him for installation.

**Pastor Rick** in the presence of the congregation committed himself to the new trust and responsibility and promised to discharge his duties in harmony with the constitution of the church. He promised to preach and teach in accordance with the Holy Scripture and the Confessions of the Lutheran Church. Promising to love, serve, and pray for God's people, nourishing them with the Word and Holy Sacraments, leading them by example in the use of the means of grace, in faithful service and holy living, he said, " **I will, and I ask God to help me.**"

Bishop Gohl prayed, "*Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.*" **Amen.**

Then, **the congregation** agreed to regard Pastor Rick as a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God, receiving him as a messenger of Jesus Christ, sent by God to serve God's people with the Gospel of hope and salvation.

They agreed to pray for him, help and honor him for his work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ, by stating unanimously, **We Will.**

Rev. Gohl then committed the office of Pastor to St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Clear Spring, Maryland.

**Closing Prayer: Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths of yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Dismissal to a beautiful reception in the Fellowship Hall followed the service. The church honored Pastor Rick with a gift of Clerical Stoles in the colors of the Liturgical Seasons and the guest book and pen.

Those serving to bring the installation service to fruition, were many. *We have different gifts, according to the grace given to us. If your gift is in prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. Romans 12:4-8*

This scripture was evident in the planning, preparation, and work demonstrated and God looked down with a smile as it was finished in His name and all praise and glory are His.

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### Pastor Rick's Installation Service





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Dear Friends at St. Peter's Lutheran Church,

Pat and I want to thank you for the invitation to attend the Installation Service for your new pastor. Unfortunately, we will not be able to attend, but we do send our best wishes and prayers as you begin your new life together in ministry.

Pat and I truly enjoyed the opportunities we had to worship with you at St. Peter's. Those Sunday mornings were always a joy for us and we looked forward to the times we could be together.

May God bless you and Pastor Shives as you serve our Lord together.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bob and Pat McEllroy