

LIFE TOGETHER

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
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Pastor Richard (Rick) Shives
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FEBRUARY 2019

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector ~ Judy Wise
Ushers ~ Annabelle Kayser, Ron Shives
Communion Assistant ~ Stefan Shingleton



From the Pastor's Pen

My Dear St. Peter's Family,

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is as strong as death. Its flames are flames of fire, a most vehement flame. Many waters cannot quench love, nor can the floods drown it. If a man would give for love all the wealth of his house, it would be utterly despised.
(From Song of Solomon 8:6-7)

I cannot believe that it is February already. A week after Christmas I was in Walmart to pick up something and I noticed that all of the unsold Christmas items were consolidated into one small area with 75% off signs taped to the shelves. Then, I noticed an employee was opening big brown shipping boxes from which she was taking heart shaped boxes filled with candy to arrange in a Valentine's Day display. My first thought was, Christmas is barely over and she is setting up Valentine displays. My second thought was, that candy is going to be stale by the time February 14th gets here. The third thought was how appropriate it is for one season of love to follow another.

Love came down at Christmas from God to us and love is recognized by humans, one for the other, on Valentine's Day. Not only do spouses and engaged persons send cards and candies to each other but we also share in the giving of treats and cards to family members and friends whom we hold dear in our hearts.

Love, a little four-letter word that has a huge impact. Many times, we tend to forget that love, the love we give and the love we are given, is a gift from God. Sometimes we feel entitled to being loved by someone because of what we do for them. However, true love, just like God's grace, cannot and should not be thought of as payment for, or earned, by our works.

Many people are confused about the meaning of the word love. We tend to forget that love is one of the greatest gifts that we have been given and that we can give. Love is an attribute of God himself. We are to give love through unselfish service to others.

Love, a little four-letter word that should be shared on a daily basis, not just at Christmas and Valentine Day. As you go out to buy those special cards, and yes, the candy too, I pray that you are sending and giving them in the true spirit of God's love.

Blessings,

P. Rick



FEBRUARY at ST. PETER'S

Sunday 10th

Good will offering will be collected
Bi-Annual congregational meeting, with pot luck following meeting
Snow date: Sunday, February 17th

Sunday 17th

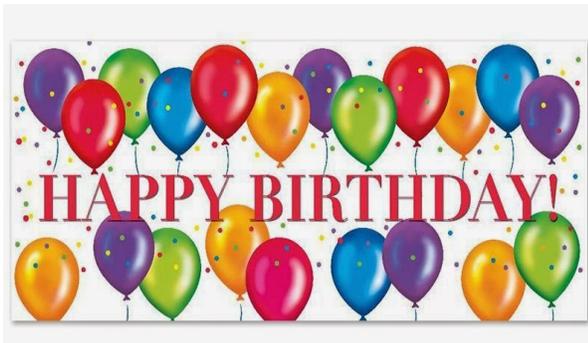
Council meeting after church service
Women of the Church meeting after church service

Thursday 21st

Lunch Bunch ~ Tony's Pizza Williamsport@11:30 AM

Friday 22nd

Newsletter information due ~ stpeters.luth.clsp@verizon.net



3rd Ricky Myers
6th Stefan Shingleton
9th Bob Peterson
10th Jeremy Crampton
13th Carol Belz
15th Gary Gruber
18th Kaye Ridenour
18th Samuel Myers
26th Matthew Valance



4th Bob & JoAnn Peterson

HATS OFF TO

Gary and Wayne Gruber and Rick and Judy Wise for shoveling the walks during the last couple snow storms.

To Stefan Shingleton for bringing his snow blower in to clear the parking lot during the last snow storm and to Jenny's Dad for plowing it during the other snow storm.

For all that helped with removing the Christmas decorations.

To Carol for always making sure we have flowers for the altar and making our church and Fellowship Hall always beautiful.

To Donna and Judy for shopping for Holly Place for Valentine's Day and to John and Nancy for delivering those bags.

To Beth for directing our Choir and for all she does with the children.

To Joe White for keeping our bills paid.

To Judy for playing the organ every Sunday.

To Pastor Rick for his inspirational sermons.

CHILDREN'S SERMON for JANUARY



The Women of the Church

We met on January 27th and discussed the gift bags for Holly Place for Valentine's Day. We also finalized the Congregational Dinner for the 10th of February and the Installation Reception for Pastor Rick on March 31st. The next Lunch Bunch dates were scheduled and we will be lunching at the House of Kobe, the Green Turtle, the United Buffet and the Colonial in the coming months. Our next scheduled meeting will be February 24th after church.

MARCH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector ~ Ron Shives

Ushers ~ John & Nancy Younker

Communion Assistant ~ Pat Linton

LET US BE THANKFUL

*We always thank God for all of you,
mentioning you in our prayers.*

*We continually remember before our God and Father
your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love,
and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

A plea went out and there was an immediate response to "hey everybody, help is needed to put the Christmas decorations away for another year and would really be appreciated". All who were able and available went to the sanctuary to do a big job in short order. The hands that began the process of preparing God's holy house one evening in December, while the choir practiced the Cantata, was there to finish the task in January. Many hands make light work. Thank you to all who pitched in, removing the decorations from the sanctuary and narthex, carrying them to the Fellowship Hall where they would be organized, boxed and shelved for another year, later. Reverse order of preparing the sanctuary and church for the celebration of Jesus' birth which took place in early December. The entire array of Advent and Christmas decor was stashed away, task completed in little more than an hour a few days later without a lot of stress, we hope, to all. The beautification of the sanctuary, the narthex, and the fellowship hall is to give praise and thanksgiving to God for the innumerable blessings He so graciously bestows on St. Peter's throughout the year and for blessing mankind with the birth of His son, Jesus Christ. All praise and glory to you, our Lord God through your dear son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe. Hebrews 12:28 NIV

Thank you for the Christmas Ornaments

A very special thank you to our FaithWeaver Kids, their leaders and Gary Wigfield for creating the beautiful Christmas ornaments that were shared with everyone. Each ornament was made from a creation of God's, a tree limb. Gary chose a limb of perfect size, sawed each ornament to a specific size, drilled the hole for the fiber string attachment and then turned it over to the kids for completion. Different verses, from God's Word that tell the story of Jesus birth IE: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men Luke 2:14 were written on paper, giving the appearance of aged paper, then glued, shellacked and covered with glitter appearing to be ice crystals and snow as a finishing touch to the tree branch ornaments. If you were fortunate enough to receive one with gold glitter, give Lanie a hug of thanks because that was her suggestion. Another suggestion: Do not pack your ornament away but keep it out where you can see it occasionally as a reminder of God's promise of eternal life through the birth of His son Jesus who gave His life for our sins.

The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

Jesus-----

His birth was a signal of hope...

His life a reflection of God...

His heart an expression of love...

May you feel the depth of His love
every part of your day.

May you look forward to the year ahead with confidence in God---
He loves you more than you can imagine, and cheers you on to fulfill His purpose for
you.



Property Committee Report

January, 2019

This report by the Property Committee and its members is for January.

James Murray (House Doctor) was asked to give us a proposal to scape/paint the brick wall (old church) at the flat roof. The Church Council approved his proposal and work was completed the end of December.

AC&T was awarded the parsonage boiler replacement 11/6 and the new boiler installed in December.

Griffith Oil inspected the oil tank and would not deliver oil because of rusty legs. They suggested a new oil tank (\$1500). Our Property Comm. inspected the legs and found them to be just rusty on the exterior. Griffith reinspected the legs and agreed to their structural integrity, oil will now be delivered

The parsonage was checked multiple times during the cold weather

Multiple items remain on the Property List and will be completed as time allows.

Many thanks to all members that have helped with the different projects.

Keeping St. Peter's alive and well is our goal. We are blessed to have such a fine facility to worship in.

PC Chairman, Gary Wigfield