



# ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

*Together, **BOLDLY** living and sharing God's grace with all.*

1803 Hwy 1431 W  
Marble Falls, TX 78654  
830 693-2253

[lutheran@splcmf.org](mailto:lutheran@splcmf.org)  
[www.stpetersmarblefalls.org](http://www.stpetersmarblefalls.org)

**HOLY COMMUNION**  
8:15 & 10:45am



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

## Dinner for Eight!

Did you ever wish there was an opportunity to get to know other St. Peter's members? Wish no more! Groups will consist of about 8 people to meet 4 times during the year (your group makes your own schedule) Look for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Groups will be assigned in February.

*Bon Appetit y'all!*



## BUILDING TO BLESS UPDATE



We start the 2019 year at St. Peter's mortgage free. Yes, shout a hip-hooray and pat yourself on the back. At our December council meeting the Council voted to pay off our existing mortgage. As you recall this mortgage pay off plan was highlighted in a November 14<sup>th</sup> Congregational Letter and discussed during a December 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday School hour update on the Building to Bless construction finance plan. The benefit of this action will save us approximately \$13,000 in interest charges.

Two new mortgages will be secured during the BTB Finance Plan; the first mortgage upon the completion of our construction plan (early 2020) and when we refinance the mortgage upon the completion of the BTB campaign in June 2021. In 2019 we have budgeted to allocate and set aside a portion of your BIF and General Giving to a "mortgage" account. This "mortgage" account will be needed in 2020 to

assist with temporary mortgage payments until the BTB campaign is completed.

We look forward to continuing to share our current and future ministries with our members, the next generation, and with our community. Again, thank you for your overwhelming generosity to continue to grow our ministries at St. Peter's.

-Chuck Wettstein

## WINTER HAPPENINGS

Get connected at St. Peter's in the new year!

A listing of January - March Bible studies, small groups, classes, and more is now available in our winter happenings brochure.

Pick up a copy in the Narthex.



Winter 2019

# MEET YOUR 2019 CHURCH COUNCIL

## **JOHN BURNS (3 Years Remaining)**

### **Tell us a little about yourself:**

John grew up in southern Indiana and was a computer engineer in the aerospace industry until his retirement. His favorite pastime lately has been training for half Ironman races. John is married to Ann, who many know through choir.

## **RUTH BUSS (3 Years Remaining)**

Ruth is a wife, mother, grandmother and registered nurse. She was raised in Minnesota and Wisconsin and attended St. Olaf College and Bellin School of Nursing. She is retired and live in Horseshoe Bay, where they golf and follow the fortunes of NCAA basketball, professional and tennis...and the Green Bay Packers.

## **JANETTE CLAUSEN (President) (1 Year Remaining)**

Janette has served on many committees in her previous congregation and realizes the importance of working together to make the entire body function more smoothly. She is a team player and yet an independent thinker.

## **BRUCE JACKSON (3 Years Remaining)**

### **Tell us a little about yourself:**

Bruce grew up in Alvin, TX, is an architect and a history buff. Bruce is married to Ann, and raising their talented granddaughter, Peyton.

## **JANE JONES (2 Years Remaining)**

Jane's experience includes teaching in public and church schools, volunteering with youth ministry, singing in choirs, leading Bible study and women's prayer circles, and serving as a Stephen Minister.

## **KELLY MARTIN (1 Year Remaining)**

Kelly grew up in and is incredibly active in the Marble Falls community and is currently a nurse at Colt Elementary School. She has served on the St. Peter's Lutheran School board and uses her gifts at St. Peter's as a lector, communion assistant, and Sunday School teacher.

## **CHUCK WETTSTEIN (1 Year Remaining)**

Chuck served on council at two previous congregations. He also chaired a Call Committee and was heavily involved in two facility/building expansions (one at each congregation). Through his years at St. Peter's he has participated in and been engaged with various church activities including the Advisory Team.

## **COUNTNEY WING (Vice President) (2 Years Remaining)**

One of Courtney's greatest assets to our congregation is her longevity at St. Peter's. She was an active and faithful youth, receiving the Southwestern Texas Synod's Bishop Award and attending the Wartburg Youth Leadership School. Now as an adult she has served on our Faith Formation Committee and was instrumental in crafting our Youth Minister job description. With her own kids in St. Peter's children's ministry, she is vested in fostering faith as a leader.

## **JIM WUKASCH (2 Years Remaining)**

Jim Wukasch is finishing the term begun by Clay Fancher in 2018. Jim has experience in church leadership through his time at First Lutheran in Burnet, where he was on council. Jim and his family joined St. Peter's in 2014, and his and Suzanne's daughters, Averi and Paige, were active in the high school youth before graduating. Jim brings a discerning ear and voice to our leadership.

## **Thrivent Members**

Don't forget to direct your **2018 Thrivent Choice Dollars** by **March 31st, 2019**



# PARISH NEWS



*Kathy Nobles in the loss of her brother-in-law, Leslie Vance  
Baily & Gaynelle Sutherland in the loss of Baily's sister-in-law,  
Barbara Sutherland  
Carol & James Stiles in the loss of Carol's mother, Gabrielle Thorp  
Dot Norred in the loss of her nephew, Jim Bob Dubue*

## In Our Prayers

Jolene Williams  
Judy Haverlah  
Doris Schappe  
Annie Woods  
Nik Schappe  
Doris Tate  
Bob England  
Jenny Braeutigam  
Pat Magerkurth  
Carolyn Selman  
Marci Wilde  
Chris Grazier  
Linda Williams  
Mary Posey  
Harold Brueckner  
Mary Langehennig  
Bobby Norred  
Jerry Braeutigam  
Jane Taylor  
Richard Rahr  
Virginia Rahr  
May Watson  
Camilla Pilgram  
Larry Stahl  
Margo Stahl  
Bob Ward  
Kris Ward  
Sarah Holmes  
Haley Beatly  
Matthew Holmes  
Charlie Hayes  
Kim Hansard  
Paul Farrell  
Ann Huebner  
Ron Burke  
Lisa Williams  
Cliff Jordan  
Judy Hegg  
Greg Butler

Thank you to St. Peter's

We want to thank everyone at Church for all of the help you gave us during and after the flooding. Your love and caring means a lot to us.

*Missing you all, Don & Dottie Burke*



To Linda Burling, Cindy Struchen, Ellen Doffing, Jane Jones, Lori Golden, & Sandi Gorski for their help in the Church office during January.

To the Fellowship Committee for organizing the Annual Meeting Potluck.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Financial Results Through Dec. 2018

| Item                          | Dec              | YTD               |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Income (All)</b>           | \$ 47,949        | \$ 491,085        |
| <b>Budget Income</b>          | \$ 48,955        | \$ 538,692        |
| <b>Diff. \$ Over/Under(-)</b> | <b>\$1,006</b>   | <b>(\$47,607)</b> |
| <b>%</b>                      | <b>97%</b>       | <b>91%</b>        |
| <b>Expenses</b>               | \$ (35,663)      | \$ (499,428)      |
| <b>Budget Expenses</b>        | \$ (43,877)      | \$ (538,692)      |
| <b>Diff. \$ Over/Under(-)</b> | <b>(\$8,214)</b> | <b>(\$39,264)</b> |
| <b>%</b>                      | <b>73%</b>       | <b>94%</b>        |
| <b>Net</b>                    | <b>\$12,286</b>  | <b>(\$8,343)</b>  |

## ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

### Avg. Attendance/Sunday

|                          | Dec         | YTD         |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Attendance - 2018</b> | 187         | 195         |
| <b>Attendance - 2017</b> | 244         | 211         |
| <b>Diff.</b>             | <b>(57)</b> | <b>(16)</b> |



## The new 2019 Flower Chart is located in the Narthex.

You can sign-up for altar flowers in honor, in celebration, or in memory of a loved one or event.

The altar flowers are \$25 per vase. You may sign up for just one or both the vases. Please indicate on the chart. Please leave your donation in the offering plate during Sunday services or take to the church office.

# WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDIES

## Living Into God's Story (January 6<sup>th</sup> – March 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Who is God? Who is this person named Jesus? **During the Season of Epiphany (now through March 3), our readings in worship all help us identify how God is at work in our world.**...from birth (Jan 6) to baptism (Jan 13) to mountain top experiences (Mar 3) to Beatitudes and miracles and teachings that help us know what it looks like to join into God's kingdom (Feb 3, 10, 17, & 24). And, maybe this is the most exciting and scary part of Epiphany, that we are not just watching God's story like some blockbuster movie. Each week we are invited to see God in the world in ways that will forever change our lives...**because Epiphany is not only about identifying who Jesus is...but also hearing how God has identified us and our place in God's story.** So, let us come like the magi, and go and live like one fed alongside the 5000.

**The Narrative Lectionary is a 4-year cycle of texts for Sunday morning worship.** It was designed by professors at Luther Seminary so that each school year we will **hear the entire biblical story** from Creation in Genesis to the Coming of the Holy Spirit in Acts. We hope that as our preaching sweeps across the whole of the Bible, **our stories might be better centered in God's story.**

## MID-WEEK/Monthly Bible Studies:

**RED HOT MOM SQUAD:** Meets at 10:00am on Monday's in the Narthex. Join us for a discussion on the on Anne Lamott's—Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers.

**MEN'S BYOBIBLE STUDY:** All men are invited. We meet the third Monday of the month at 7:00pm at Double Horn Brewing Company. Come to the next meeting on **February 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**WOMEN OF ST. PETER'S BIBLE STUDIES:** Meet monthly during the school year. The Bible study is taken from the *Gather* magazine, which can be found on the current publication table in the narthex. Please consider a donation to cover the cost of the magazine.

**Deborah Bible Study:** Meets at 10:00am on the third Thursday of the month. Meets next on **February 21<sup>st</sup>** at the home of Lila Collins.

**Agape Bible Study:** Meets at 1:00pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Meets next on **February 26<sup>th</sup>** at the home of Belva Latshaw.

**CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE READ IN ONE YEAR:** Are you interested in learning about the Bible? Would you like to be able to sit in a room and share your thoughts on the different books of the Bible from the creation to the Gospels? Please join us at St. Peter's this year and read through the entire Bible in one year. It is easier than you think. Meets on the first Tuesday each month, from 6 to 8pm. Next meeting will in **March 5<sup>th</sup>.** Contact Coach Orton if interested at [corton@splcmf.org](mailto:corton@splcmf.org) or 830-637-1388

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

### "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible" - Room 215 at 9:45

Come learn how to read the Bible for all its worth

Feb 17th, 24th; March 3rd, 10th

### "Dwelling in the Psalms" - Room 212 at 9:45

A Bible study on the book of Psalms

Feb 17th, 24th; March 3rd, 10th





# SERVICE GROUPS

## Snip-its

Please join us on **February 19th at 9am**. Do you have a sewing machine at home collecting dust? Or, maybe you just need a change of pace with a quick, easy project. We're in need of "at home sewing." You can choose to sew squares together, bind quilts to produce a finished project, or both. Anything you can do would be a great help.

**Needed ---- Needed ---- Needed!**

"SNIP-ITS" Quilters are in great NEED of construction materials for making LWR Mission Quilts. Please think about donating any of the following: Used Sheets: for making quilt backs, Used Blankets and Mattress Pads: for use as quilt liners (centers), & Cotton, Cotton/Blend Yardage goods: used to cut 11" squares.



Donations can be delivered to the quilting "frame" room off the kitchen.

Questions: Call Judy Martin: (830)598-4249



## Can you crochet or knit? Would you like to learn?

If so, then, we need you for St. Peter's Prayer Shawl Ministry. Come meet with us on **Saturday, February 16th at 9am**, in Room 212. Bring your yarn along with knitting needles, crochet hooks, or loom. For more information call the Church Office. **\*\*Everyone is invited\*\***



## Meals on Wheels Cookie Project

Each month we will need . . .

**17 dozen cookies by Friday before the 3rd Saturday of this month (February 15)**

You can bring the cookies throughout the month, and put them in the kitchen freezer marked "**Meals on Wheels.**"



## The Helping Center needs your help! Let's fill the basket!

Please bring non-perishable and canned foods to the church throughout the month and leave in the grocery basket located in the Narthex. The last Sunday of each month (2/24) they will be collected and delivered to the Helping Center for distribution.

## Arbor House Worship—Feb 10th

St. Peter's leads the worship at Arbor House Assisted Living on the second Sunday of each month at 11am. All are welcome to join in this special time of sharing our faith in worship.

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

### "Offering" can be given, received, and shared

When you hear the word offering at church what do you think of? Many people automatically think money.

Have you ever thought of offering as...the church community *offers* you worship, gathering with friends, building and strengthening your faith? The church family has so much to offer to help lead and support you in your everyday Christian life.

What about offering do you have to *offer* the church? Everyone has something to give to the church family. Some people think "I don't have a talent, or I don't have anything special to give." YES, everyone has something to offer, big or small.

What is one way you can give, receive, and share an offering?

-Vonda Orton

# FELLOWSHIP



**Book Club** will meet on Monday, February 18th, at 1:30 pm in Room 212 to discuss *This Is The Way It Always Is* by Laurie Frankel, a novel about a family with a transgender child.

## Retiree Round Up



**Retiree Roundup** will meet on Thursday, February 28, at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

“Hear Better, Live Better: New developments in hearing technology.” The guest speaker is Ron Ragsdale.

Lunch will follow the program with chili and cornbread.

Please RSVP by Sunday, February 24th. Sign the attendance sheet in the narthex, or contact Pam Wettstein or Betty Matejowsky.

**Winter Texans, please join us!**

Gals' Night In

## “An Evening of Love Songs”

Join us for an evening of love songs presented by Deborah Vanicek.

Please bring a finger food and a beverage of your choice.

**February 25th at 6:00pm**

**At the home of  
Belva Latshaw  
313 San Saba  
Meadowlakes, TX  
830-637-7437**

## HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



### Meet Cooper Wilson

Cooper is a focused young man. Yes, he plays sports. He loves football and has been playing baseball since he was walking. In fact, he played varsity baseball as a freshman. If someone knew of Cooper, but did not actually know Cooper, they would think sports is what is most important to him. He says, “Sports are important, but sports are not first on my list of what is important. Without hesitation, Cooper will say with pride, “God is first in my life.” Cooper attends several youth Bible studies with his friends each week in addition to one on one individual Bible lessons with adults. One day when having a conversation about reading the Bible Cooper said, “Most people read the Bible because they feel good about reading it; but I want to read the Bible to build my relationship with Christ while learning about scripture.” Cooper does not say this to impress others, he says this because he believes in the importance of learning about scripture.

Cooper has been involved with several school activities. He was on homecoming court. He is a member of the FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) and was one of the key speakers at the Fields of Faith gathering last fall. Cooper also has been one of the key components in a program called, “Hearts of Gold.” This program focuses on building each other up and primarily respecting everyone by not being a bully. Cooper also enjoys hanging out with his friends. If Cooper is on the golf course, at a coffee shop, or at any youth program his friends are very important to him. Cooper says he sometimes struggles with meeting new people and participating in various activities allows him to build his confidence while meeting new people. When Cooper was asked what his greatest accomplishments have been, he talked briefly about his many sports accomplishments, but mostly he talked about his relationship with God. He feels blessed to have been baptized and then “Re-Baptized” at the fields of faith gathering. He internally feels a sense of peace every time he talks about and learns about God. Cooper truly believes that without the relationship he has with Christ he would not be who he is today. When attending college Cooper said, “Christ will definitely be first on my list no matter what I am doing.”

When Cooper was asked who he admires the most he was unable to give one solid answer. So, he decided to split his vote down the middle for two people. Andrew Stripling is a friend that Cooper has known his whole life. Cooper truly admires and respects Andrew because of how he handles himself. “Andrew does things the right way, that is why I respect him so much. He is a great guy that I know I will be friends with my entire life.” The second person on his list is Coach Orton. Cooper respects Coach Orton because he will do anything for him at any time. Cooper enjoys the Bible lessons they have together and says he has learned a lot from him. Cooper loves St. Peters because of the family and friendly atmosphere. He feels he can show up any Sunday and will always feel welcomed. The people here show an interest in you and truly care about you. Once in college Cooper plans to continue his relationship with God on so many different levels. He is thinking about attending TLU (Texas Lutheran University) to gain a degree in ministry. *Please join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:20 to celebrate Cooper Wilson.*

# SPLAT LIFE

## St. Peter's Lutheran Active Teens Gathering Schedule

Check your weekly SPLAT+family email for any special details for the month. Let Coach Orton know if you are not receiving this weekly email.

**Sunday Mornings Sunday School-** High school aged kids will meet in the Fellowship Hall for Sunday Morning Coffee House at 9:30 am. We will head to Sunday School from there. Coach Orton or Aaron Pyle will lead the discussion, activity, or game for the day.

**Monday Morning Ministries-** High school aged kids will meet at Numinous Coffee at 7:15 am to start their week off with a Bible study lesson. Please bring a friend.

**Wednesday Evening Bible Study-** High school aged kids will meet 6:00 – 8:00 pm. We have some time for games, snacks, and Bible study. Please bring a friend.

## CONFIRMATION



Confirmation is what we call an intentional two year process of faith formation guided by the pastors, adults mentors, and special speakers. We dig into the small catechism (The Lord's Prayer, 10 Commandments, Apostles' Creed, Baptism, Communion). We will also learn some faith practices, field trips, and service projects.

### ~ Mark Your Calendars ~

February 13th

Field Trip: Our Neighbor's Faith - Fellowship Baptist Church

February 20th

Field Trip: Our Neighbor's Faith - St. John's Catholic Church

February 27th

Class: Preparing for Lent - Watch South African Movie: "The Son of Man"

## PRE-CONFIRMATION JUMPSTART



Tuesday Pre-Confirmation (Jumpstart) - 5th & 6th grade students meet after school for a class to get a "jumpstart" on Confirmation by learning more about the stories of the people of the Bible and getting to visit some of our local ELCA congregations.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### St. Peter's Lutheran School

The Spring will be a BUSY time for St. Peter's Lutheran School with so many wonderful events!

February brings a Valentine's Day Party and lots of learning! We also use February to prepare for fall registration - that process begins on March 1 for all returning students, siblings, and church members! Everyone else can begin registering on April 1. We are busting at the seams and will be meeting with the School Board to plan for the future - we would love to open 1-2 more classrooms in the coming years! The community continues to grow and expand, and our school needs to as well! March 6 begins our Lenten Meal Fundraiser that benefits our school directly! Any funds raised at these meals will contribute to another expansion of the school! You can help us with this fundraiser in a variety of ways! We need people to sign up to provide desserts for any of the meals (sign up sheet will be in the Narthex). You can assist one or more of the hosting groups in providing the meal or help with set up and clean up. The host groups are School Board, Choir, Church Council, Men's BYOB, Children & Youth, and Women of St. Peter's. You can attend the meals and give a donation to our school - there is no charge for the meals, but a free-will offering is collected for the school. We are not setting a financial goal this year, but rather leaving it up to the people of St. Peter's! We hope you enjoy the meals and fellowship.

We have also begun plans for the 8th Annual Run for the Son 5K/1K. The event will take place on Saturday, April 13 beginning at 8:00 am. This is a wonderful event for the community - people of all ages are encouraged to attend. We are currently getting race sponsors, so if you or someone you know wants to be a sponsor, please contact Tracy at [tracy@splcmf.org](mailto:tracy@splcmf.org) for information. Race registration (paper forms and online registration) will be available SOON so be watching for that! If you are interested in volunteering for the event, please also contact Tracy. We can't have the event without our wonderful volunteers - you receive a shirt and will have a GREAT time! All money earned from the event goes to the Scholarship Fund at St. Peter's Lutheran School to help families with a financial need attend our school! What a great way to spend a Saturday morning - being active, fellowshiping with others, and HELPING KIDS! We hope you can be a part!

Tracy Knight, St. Peter's School Director

830-693-2253

www.stpetersmarblefalls.org

Office Hours: 8:00am—3:00pm

Monday— Friday

# SPLC DIRECTORY

## Associate Pastor

Rev. Harold Vanicek  
830-693-2253  
hvanicek@splcmf.org

## Transition Pastor

Rev. Greg Gaskamp  
Greg.gaskamp@att.net

## Sr. & Jr. High Youth Minister

Coach Craig Orton  
830-693-2253  
corton@splcmf.org

## Children & Family Ministry

Pam Walton  
830-693-2253  
pwalton@splcmf.org

## Church Administrator

Marietta Williams  
830-693-2253  
mwilliams@splcmf.org

## Financial Treasurer

David Leighton  
dave@splcmf.org

## Financial Secretary

Marietta Williams  
finsec@splcmf.org

## Director of Music

Don Trapp  
830-596-1325  
dononmac@yahoo.com

## St. Peter's School

Tracy Knight, Director  
tracy@splcmf.org

## Helping Center Representative

Faith Trapp

## Council President

Janette Clausen

## ST, PETER'S Blessings

Carol Leighton, *Board Member*  
Cal Clausen, *Board Member*  
Dennis Reed, *Board Member*  
Linda Burling, *Board Member*  
Jan Starkey, *Board Member*

## Building to Bless

Dale Moquist, *Campaign Leader*  
Pastor Vanicek, *Campaign Lead Pastor*  
Pastor Vanicek, *Visual/Print Communications*  
Coiece Pyle, *Follow Up Leader*

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Burns  
Ruth Bus  
Janette Clausen, *President*  
Bruce Jackson  
Jane Jones  
Dave Leighton, *Treasurer*  
Kelly Martin  
Chuck Wettstein  
Courtney Wing, *Vice President*  
Jim Wukasch

## COMMITTEE & TEAM LEADERS

### Building Committee

Steve Reitz, *Committee Chair*  
John Burns, *Council Liaison*  
Catherine Hicks

Carol Jones  
Dave Leighton  
Mike Struchen  
Don Trapp  
Pastor Vanicek  
Chuck Wettstein

### Congregational Care

Bruce Jackson, *Council Liaison*

### Endowment

Janette Clausen, *Council Liaison*  
Chuck Wettstein, *Council Liaison*  
Dave Leighton, *Committee Chair*

### Faith Formation

Courtney Wing, *Council Liaison*  
Lindsay Pyle, *Committee Chair*

### Fellowship

Kelly Martin, *Council Liaison*  
Joan Leake, *Committee Chair*

### Property

John Burns, *Council Liaison*  
Steve Reitz, *Committee Chair*

### Social Outreach

Jane Jones, *Council Liaison*  
Emily Patterson, *Committee Chair*

### Stewardship

Jim Wukasch, *Council Liaison*  
Vonda Orton, *Committee Chair*

### Worship/Music

Ruth Buss, *Council Liaison*  
Bryan Hicks, *Committee Chair*  
Jan Wilde, *Worship Leader Coordinator*

### Member Care Team

Nick Bohmann  
Elizabeth Knebel  
Dale Moquist  
Jan Starkey  
Cindy Struchen