



2570 St. Peter's Church Road
Salisbury, NC 28146
Church Office-(704)279-5054
Church email: saintpetersnc@gmail.com
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Church Staff

Church Office: 704-279-5054

Rev. Sue Lynn White
(770)833-1922 (cell)
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pastorsuelynn@gmail.com
Email: saintpetersnc@gmail.com

Financial Secretary: Jennifer Welch

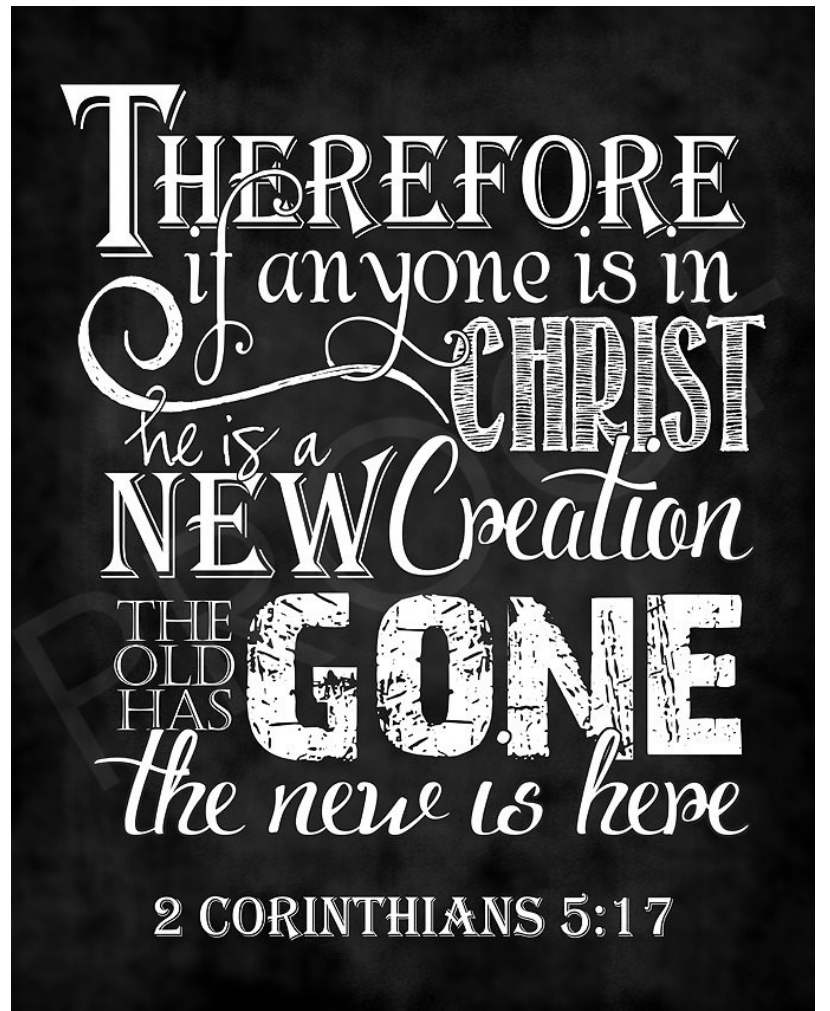
Music Director/Organist: Lucy Shue
(704)637-1425

Custodian: Betty Pierce

Preschool Director: Charleene Childers
Preschool Phone: 704-209-1693

COUNCIL 2024

- Council President- Dr. Alan King
- Council Vice-President- Marty Puckett
- Treasurer- Ken Kluttz
- Council Secretary- Jamie Lyerly
- Outreach- Lynn DeBerry
- Indoor Property-Larry Nesbitt
- Outdoor Property- Andy Cornelison
- Christian Education- Ellen Troutman
- Cemetery- Vic Cozart
- Youth- Jan McCulloh
- Care for Congregation- Mysti Harris Dean
- Worship & Music- Mark Shue



Nursing Home Members and Homebound

- Tootsie Burelson**- 1240 St. Peter's Church Road, Gold Hill, NC 28071
- Junior Lyerly**-1435 Sides Rd. Salisbury, NC 28146
- Sue Misenheimer**-Trinity Oaks (Apt. 142 C)
728 Klumac Rd. Salisbury, NC 28144
- Judy Peeler**- Trinity Oaks (#231)
728 Klumac Rd. Salisbury, NC 28144
- Marcia Ritchie**-Trinity Oaks (#304A)
728 Klumac Rd. Salisbury, NC 28144
- Marlene Shue**-6325 Hwy. 152 East, Rockwell, NC 28138
- Rose Swicegood**- Brookdale Senior Living (Room #3)
2201 Statesville Blvd. Salisbury, NC 28147
- Brenda H. Trexler**-Brookdale Senior Living (Room # 28)
2201 Statesville Blvd., Salisbury, NC 28147





"Rooted in the love of Christ, we grow in grace and joyfully branch into a broken world!"

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on a lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others." Matthew 5:14-16 NRSVUE

I have been pondering my words spoken during worship on Sunday December 31. Not that I am upset...but how can we continue to have conversation about St. Peter's mission and outreach.

I have also been pondering our vision statement and wondering what it actually means to the congregation. We say it every week...but do we actually live into it?

And then to complicate things further...the above verses from Matthew keep playing in my mind along with the words to "This Little Light of Mine." Thinking about us not being "children of the dark" but being "children of the light" no matter how dimly we think our lights may be and how if we all stand together...what a mighty flame we would be to "give light to all in the house."

So...where to begin?? Maybe the best place to begin is with questions to make us think. What does it mean to be "rooted in the love of Christ?" Does it mean that since Jesus, God incarnate, died on the cross for all of humanity everything stops at the cross? We know from John 3:16 how much God loved the world...so much that God wants us to have eternal life through Jesus. But how does being "rooted in the love of Christ" help us to "grow in grace?" How do we "grow in grace?" And is our response to that rootedness to "joyfully branch into a broken world?" How do our joyful branches help a world that is full of violence? How do our joyful branches work in our community to make a difference? Are our joyful branches still bearing fruit? Or as Jesus notes in John 15 that even the branches and vines need to be pruned in order to bear new fruit.

What do we do with our mission statement if we aren't feeling the joyfulness? Do we forget about being rooted in Christ's love? Do we stop growing in grace? Or do we seek Christian community to strengthen us until we do feel joyful?

It is easy to get discouraged and down on the current state of our congregation. Budget shortfalls, declining numbers, lack of children and youth participation...it can be rather depressing. But I still stand by what I said! While we remain in this period of waiting on what God has in store for St. Peter's, we have to celebrate what we have and where we are. We have to assess our gifts and reevaluate what our priority ministries are. We can't wait and see if someone new will walk into worship. That is why I truly believe our top ministry is outreach.

It is time for us to take our lights out from under the basket and let it shine. We can be a city on a hill that can't be hidden! Let us truly live into our mission statement...together. One branch can't provide much shade or fruit. But imagine what all of our branches can do and be together...for through the love of God in Jesus Christ.

New Year Blessings!
Pastor Sue Lynn



Invitation to Sunday School:



Have you been looking for Christian education? What about engaging conversation around the relevancy of our faith and the world? Want to know more about the history of the early church or saints and religious figures?

Or maybe you just want to dig deeper into different books of the Bible? All of this and more is offered in our weekly Sunday School class! We gather at 9:30 am for a time of coffee fellowship and general discussion before digging into the meet of the session.

Here are the weekly topics:

1st Sunday: Teacher – Jan McCulloh; Topic – Connecting Scripture to every day life.

2nd Sunday: Teacher – Linda Lambirth; Topic – Books of the Bible; Currently book of James.

3rd Sunday: Teacher – Nate Pressley; Topic – Early Church History of Saints & Religious Figures.

4th Sunday: Teacher – Alan King; Topic – Book about Prayer.

5th Sunday: Teacher – Ellen Troutman; Topic – Personal Meditations.

If there are topics that are of interest to anyone to explore, please do not hesitate to let Pastor Sue Lynn or any of the Sunday School teachers know. We want to provide a fruitful time of exploring faith, discipleship, and most importantly God!

*Thank
you!*

Thank you to Ellen Troutman for donating food to Rowan Helping Ministries (for the November Shelter-Meal Night).

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper:

Ash Wednesday and Lent start early this year...so we wanted to get information out about our upcoming Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. The Men's Group and Youth are partnering up to provide pancakes and all of the fixings on Tuesday February 13, 2024 from 5:00-6:00pm. This will serve not only as a fundraiser for the Men's Group, but also for the Youth who are working to raise money for their trip to New Orleans in July. We hope you will put this fun event on your calendar and share it with your neighbors!!





“So, I spoke to people getting food at a food bank and here are some things I learned from those in need:

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac and Cheese in the box. They can rarely use it because it needs milk and butter which is hard to get from regular food banks.
2. Boxed milk is a treasure, as kids need it for cereal which they also get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce and spaghetti noodles.
4. They cannot eat all the awesome canned veggies and soup unless you put a can opener in too or buy pop tops.
5. Oil is a luxury but needed for Rice a-Roni which they also get a lot of.
6. Spices or salt and pepper would be a real Christmas gift.
7. Tea bags and coffee make them feel like you care.
8. Sugar and flour are treats.
9. They fawn over fresh produce donated by farmers and grocery stores.
10. Seeds are cool in Spring and Summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. They rarely get fresh meat.
12. Tuna and crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but usually not sandwich bread or buns.
15. Butter or margarine is nice too.
16. Eggs are a real commodity.
17. Cake mix and frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing detergent is very expensive and is always appreciated.
19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury and women will cry over that.
20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.
21. Diapers and wipes
22. Baked goods

- 23. Potatoes
- 24. Nuts
- 25. Seeds for eating or cooking
- 26. Raisins
- 27. Dishwashing pods
- 28. Rags and cleaning supplies
- 29. Pet food and Pet supplies

In all the years I have donated food at the Holidays, I bought what I thought they wanted, but have never asked. I am glad I did. If you feel the urge to give maybe this can help you tailor it more. It does for me!



Rowan Helping Ministries:

Thank you to all who purchased gift cards for our food pantry clients! The holidays are always a stressful time...even if one doesn't have to worry about putting food on the table. I am sure the cards were greatly appreciated and gave the clients some freedom to have a choice of special items to enhance their holiday!

In the month of December Rowan Helping Ministries East served 32 clients and received 925 pounds of donated food. There will be a quarterly sign-up sheet for pantry distribution volunteers passed during worship and then available on the bulletin board outside the secretary's office. If you would like to help sorting food, packing food, or picking up food, contact Debbie Hill for ways to get involved in this outreach ministry.

Tuesday January 30, 2024 is the next time we will be providing the evening meal at Rowan Helping Ministries on Long Street in Salisbury. There are many ways to help! We provide a main meat/dish, a vegetable, a bread, and fruit to feed 75-80 people who stay at the homeless shelter. We need help preparing different aspects of the meal as well as help serving the meal. For me, serving is extremely rewarding as it provides an opportunity to connect with the residents and allows them an opportunity to express their gratitude. We provide meals 6 times a year. If you are able to commit to helping

St. Peter's Giving

Total given for December 2023: \$16,777.24

Monthly requirement: \$15,816.75

Surplus for December 2023: \$960.49

Needed per week: \$3,650.02

Avg. attendance for December 2023: 60



Memorials and Gifts



Memorials for: James Lyerly
By Short and Jill Lyerly
By Kent and Amy Cozart

Memorial for: Rodney Cline
By The West Liberty Volunteer Fire Department

Memorial for: Martin and Nellie Sides
By Daughter Nellie Shrout

A Gift to the Cemetery Fund
By Peggy Smith, In Honor Of: Herman and Thelma Brown, Carrie & Lee Brady

A Gift to the Cemetery Fund
By Patsy Kluttz

A Gift to St. Peter's Church of: 1 years expense for the Renewal of the CCLI-Copyright License
By Rev. Sue Lynn White and Brian White

A Guardian Angel gift has been made to the Community Care Clinic of Rowan County In honor of St. Peter's Lutheran Church
By Debbie Hill

Thank you

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

(If there is anyone listed on our prayer list, that needs to be removed, please call the church office. Thank you! 704-279-5054)

Disciples at St. Peter's:

Marlene Shue, Rose Swicegood, John Trexler, Guy & Betty Puckett, Mack Evans, Jim & Phyllis Cornelison, Frank King, Jerry Sides, Ernie & Linda Cooper, Larry Nesbitt, Phil & Carol Boyette, Tootsie Burlison, Ruth Shaver, Carolyn and Buddy Waller, Brenda H. Trexler, The Families and Friends of Jim Lyerly and Brenda Varnadore.

Friends of St. Peter's Family:

Chris Eller (friend of Pat Kluttz), Gary Lyerly, Martha Eller (Rose Swicegood's sister), Jerry (Marcia Ritchie's brother), Annette McKinney, Pat Ridenhour, Butch Pierce (broken hip, Ronnie Pierce's brother) Robin Daye (cancer, friend of Pat Kluttz)

January

- 3- Derek Porter
- 4- Miguel Miller
- 8- Aaron Lambirth, Kathryn Lambirth
- 9- Linda Cooper
- 10- Warren Ratliff
- 12- Judy Peeler, Abigail White
- 13- Lynn DeBerry
- 14- Mary Trexler
- 18- Graham Lyerly
- 20- Bobbi Lyerly, Glenda Vickers, Buddy Waller
- 26- Morgan Barnes
- 29- Mike Misenheimer
- 31- Dustin Ritchie, Oliver Shue



January

26- Mr. and Mrs. Vic Cozart



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector

1/7- Marty Puckett
1/14- Sierra Barger
1/21- Jan McCulloh
1/28- Mark Shue

Assistant Minister

Marty Puckett
Sierra Barger
Jan McCulloh
Mark Shue

Communion Preparers

1st Sunday- Lynn DeBerry
2nd Sunday- Jan McCulloh
3rd Sunday- Sierra Barger
4th Sunday- Linda Lambirth
5th Sunday- Rotation

Council Members Assisting with Holy Communion

January- Lynn DeBerry	Alan King
February- Jan McCulloh	Mysti Dean
March- Jan McCulloh	Larry Nesbit

Sound System

1/7- Shelby Barger
1/14- Duncan White
1/21- William Barger
1/28- Daryle Olive

Ushers

Brian White, Bobby Lambirth, Alan King, Lynn DeBerry
Lynn DeBerry, Alan King, Tina Pressley
Lynn DeBerry, Alan King, Debbie Hill
Lynn DeBerry, Alan King

Money counters

1st Sunday- Jamie Lyerly & Jill Lyerly
2nd Sunday- Jamie Lyerly & Debbie Hill
3rd Sunday- Ken & Joyce Kluttz
4th Sunday- Jamie Lyerly & Haley Lyerly
5th Sunday- Jamie Lyerly & Jill Lyerly





Youth Gathering Update:

**** Don't forget the fundraiser on the wall in the Narthex ****

It is not too late to join in the fun of the LARGEST LUTHERAN PARTY!! The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held in the Big Easy...New Orleans, LA July 16-20, 2024. The Gathering's mission of faith formation in young people is the hub and reason that all come to the pre-events and the

Gathering. The goal is to create environments and opportunities for faith formation through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service, and fellowship. While some of the experiences can be replicated at home, some are unique and special to the Gathering because of the size and scope of this ministry. There are five core goals for this ministry: affirmed & challenged in their faith, experience new perspectives, ponder their vocation, bond with their congregational group, and learn more about the ELCA and their partners.

Some youth may accomplish these goals at the Mass Gatherings, where participants come together for music, speakers, and worship. Others might tackle these goals in the Interactive Learning space, where they can experience exciting things that the ELCA and partners are doing. Or maybe it's experiencing God's work already being done in New Orleans, LA on their Accompaniment day. It might even be during Synod Day, where youth are in community with those geographically close by. It also might just happen during Community Life or the nightly congregational devotion and debrief called Final 15.

Wherever it happens, this is a powerful and transformational ministry if you are brave enough to let your guard down long enough for the Spirit to enter in, if you can be quiet long enough to listen to someone different from yourself, if your prayer is to be open to what God is calling you to, if you realize the strong roots of a community will ground you no matter the strength of life's storms, if you imagine yourself as part of something bigger than you!! Intrigued? Contact Pastor Sue Lynn for more details and find out what you were "Created to be!"

St. Peter's Lutheran Church Council Minutes – November 12, 2023

Members present – Pastor Sue Lynn White, Marty Puckett, George Lentz, Jamie Lyerly, Joy King, Lynn DeBerry, Larry Nesbitt, Ellen Troutman, Vic Cozart, Mysti-Harris Dean, Drew King, Bobby Lambirth
Members absent – Andy Cornelison

Meeting called to order – Marty Puckett

Devotions – Pastor Sue Lynn White

Motion to approve November agenda made by Vic Cozart, seconded by George Lentz, approved by all

Motion to approve October council minutes made by George Lentz, seconded by Mysti Harris-Dean, approved by all.

President's Report – Marty Puckett read the letter of resignation from our secretary Andrea Gardner. She has been our secretary for 16 years and her last day will be November 30th . Drew King made a motion to accept her resignation, George Lentz seconded and all approved.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Sue Lynn thanked all council members for their service. She was very pleased with the Reformation Service at the shelter and the meal, and also All Saint's Sunday. Pastor Sue Lynn participated in Trunk or Treat and was pleased with the turnout we had. She attended Fall Convocation October 16-18th and was very inspired. She will be on vacation December 3 –7th .

Treasurer's Report – Jamie Lyerly reported we have had extra contributions last month. This will help get us closer to meeting our budget for the 2023 year.

Outreach Committee – Shelter meal was served the last Tuesday of October to approximately 65-70 people. The next meal for Rowan Helping Ministries Shelter will be November 28 th . The Food Pantry served 20 families and 156 pounds of food was collected. The Angel Tree is in the narthex and is for our Pantry clients. Church members are asked to purchase a \$25 Walmart card or Food Lion card to go in the bags we distribute to our pantry clients.

Indoor Property Committee – The HVAC unit in the Educational Wing is broken and beyond repair. Mysti Dean Harris made a motion to spend up to \$10,000 out of the Maintenance Fund for the HVAC Unit. She also made a motion to move the \$8,000 in the budget for Youth Director's salary. It will be divided evenly between the Youth Ministry Fund and the Maintenance Fund. This will help with the cost of the new HVAC unit. These motions were seconded by Lynn DeBerry and approved by all.

Continued Council Minutes.....

Outdoor Property Committee – The awning has been completed in front of the Educational wing. The well is due for inspection and needs someone who understands the system to be present. Andy Cornelison found 4 outdoor cameras for under \$500 and will try to install before Thanksgiving. He thanked Ken Kluttz and Short Lyerly for all of their work on the sidewalk where the new awning was installed.

Christian Education Committee – A committee is being formed to help create a data base for our church members. Several options for programs are being reviewed. The congregation is being asked to donate items for the Christmas bags. Plan for 50 bags for children and shut-ins. The bags will be assembled on December 21st and distributed on Dec. 24th at our Candlelight Service.

Youth Committee – A Fall Retreat Lock-In was held at the church Nov.3-4th for the older youth. CPR Class will be held November 18th at the church. Approximately 20 people are signed up to attend. Plans are being made for the Youth to go Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins and some other members of the church.

Care for the Congregation Committee – The council agreed to get a gift card from Greystone Salon and Spa for Andrea for her service to the church as our secretary for sixteen years. Joy King will contact her about recognizing her at our church service on December 3rd and having a reception afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.

Worship and Music Committee – Plans are being made for a Winter Solstice Service on Thursday, December 21st . This will be a service of healing and praise. On December 24 th we will have a Cantata for the morning service and Christmas Eve candlelight service will be at 7:00pm. Discussion was held at Worship and Music committee meeting about the formation of the Mutual Ministry Team.

Unfinished Business – All items were addressed

New Business – The Budget will be passed out Nov. 12th at the Congregational Meeting. The meeting will be held open on Nov. 19 th for possible discussion on the budget. The meeting will be continued on November 26 th for approval of budget and election of new council members. Council nomination sheets were reviewed.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

St Peters Lutheran Church

Balance Sheet

01/02/2024 02:59 PM

GENERAL FUND 01, December 2023

Page: 1

Current Year

**** Unposted transactions have been included on this report ****

ASSETS

CHECKING ACCOUNTS

PARK STERLING CHECKING

General Budget	\$28,082.80
Good Neighbor Fund	374.16
Maintenance	13,209.86
Special Projects	545.97
Sunday School	2,874.05
On Site Pantry Giving	2,210.22
Mission Trip	986.86
youth K5 - 12	593.54
Back Pack - Noisy Offerin	141.59
Staff Contingency Fund	1,944.07
Church Endowment Fund	4,956.63
Youth Director Salary	4,000.00

Subtotal Checking Accounts 59,699.75

SAVINGS/INVESTMENT ACCTS

Reserve Acct (2996)	10,119.82
Capital Improvements 3550	2,668.71
Memorial Fund (2988)	4,959.76
Truist Perpetual Cemetr	147,636.31
Perpetual Cemtry (3803)	17,825.62
Music Savings Account	20,113.79
Scholarship - F&M # 2147	60,573.29
W.Trexler Scholarship	62.67

Subtotal Savings/Investment Accts 263,959.97

OTHER ASSETS

Sales Tax receivable 475.57

TOTAL ASSETS \$324,135.29

LIABILITIES

CURRENT LIABILITIES

PAYROLL W/H PAYABLE

941 Taxes Payable	\$2,529.42
NC W/H	1,298.00

Subtotal Payroll W/h Payable 3,827.42

TOTAL LIABILITIES 3,827.42

FUND BALANCE

Fund Balance \$320,307.87

TOTAL EQUITY 320,307.87

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY \$324,135.29

January 2024 St. Peter's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> ▼ </div>	1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5	6
7 Baptism of our Lord 9:30 am-Coffee Time 9:45 am- Sunday School 10:30 am-Worship with Pastor Sue Lynn White	8 Christian Education/Youth & Family Meeting at 6:30 pm	9 Worship & Music Meeting at 6:30pm	10	11	12	13 RHM Food Pantry Distribution 8:45-10:30 am
14 Lectionary 2 8:00 am - Council 9:30 am- Coffee Time 9:45 am- Sunday School 10:30 am- Worship and council installation with Pastor Sue Lynn White	15	16	17	18	19	20 RHM Food Pantry Distribution 8:45-10:30 am
21 Lectionary 3 8:00 am-Men's Breakfast 9:30 am-Coffee Time 9:45 am- Sunday School 10:30 am-Worship with Pastor Sue Lynn White	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Lectionary 4 9:30 am-Coffee Time 9:45 am- Sunday School 10:30 am-Worship with Pastor Sue Lynn White	29	30 RHM Meal at the Shelter at 6:00 pm	31			