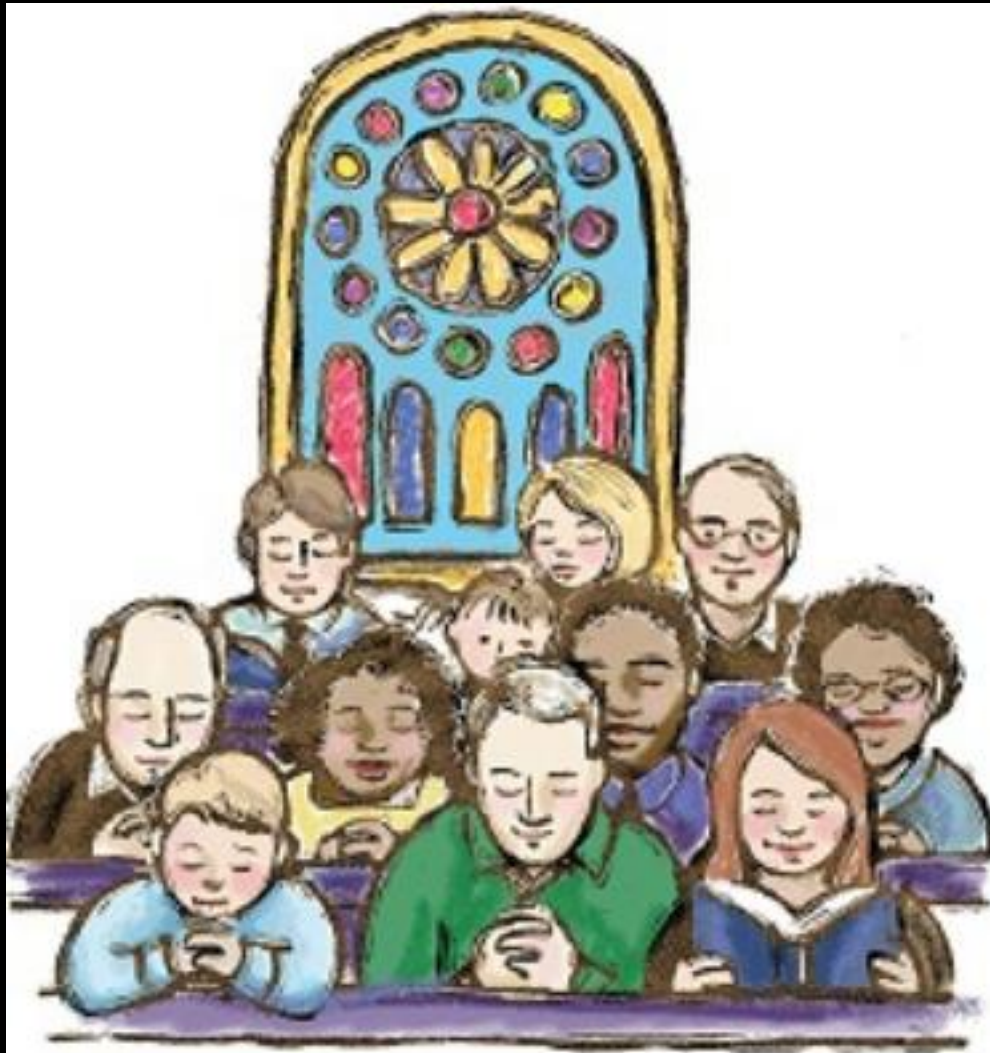


# THE NET

## OCTOBER 2024



**“This day is holy to our LORD;  
and do not be grieved,  
for the joy of the LORD  
is your strength.”**

**Nehemiah 8:10 NRSV**



# St. Peter's Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in American

10301 Coastal Highway  
Ocean City, MD 21842  
Phone 410-524-7474  
Fax 410-524-6009  
Email: [splcoc@comcast.net](mailto:splcoc@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.stpetersoc.com](http://www.stpetersoc.com)

Rev. Frank Harpster, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Harry Wolpert, Pastor Emeritus  
Mr. Elsworth Wheatley, Minister of Music  
Mr. Keith Hall, Praise Team Leader  
Ms. Amy Morgan, Office Manager

## ++Pastor's Message++

by Pastor Frank Harpster

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace, Peace, and Mercy be to you from God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.

October blessings to you. We have entered the month that Pastor Harry affectionately calls "Luther Month." It is a great time to give thanks to God for our Lutheran Christian roots. As members of the Church, that is the body of Christ, we are blessed that *"just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness"* (Col. 2:6-7). We praise God for rooting us in Jesus Christ and the Lutheran tenants of Grace alone, Faith alone, and Scripture alone.

For many folks, October 31<sup>st</sup> is the day to dress up the kids in costumes and go door to door proclaiming "Trick or Treat" with hopes of receiving candy or some other treat. For many Christians, especially protestant Christians, October 31<sup>st</sup> is "Reformation Day"; the day that we celebrate God's blessings through Martin Luther and other reformers. You probably know on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1517 Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the Castle church door in Wittenberg, Germany. The theses were written to dispute the teachings of indulgences, purgatory, and other practices that were inconsistent with the teachings of scripture. Luther could not understand how the church could be selling God's free gift of forgiveness.

After the 95 Theses had circulated, the leaders of the Church met with Luther and required him to recant these theses or be excommunicated. Luther could not, and would not recant, and took his reform movement outside of the Church to preserve the true teachings of scripture. The reformation movement was founded on the following biblical teachings:

**Grace Alone:** At the center of the Christian faith is the assurance of salvation through Jesus Christ as an unearned, free gift of God's grace. Though we are sinners, deserving God's wrath and punishment, we receive the riches of God's love and forgiveness. We are justified by grace through faith.

**Faith Alone:** God's gift of grace is received only through faith in what Jesus has done and continues to do. Our good works are a result of our faith and never a condition of God's grace. Paul's letter to the Ephesians reminds us "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

**Scripture Alone:** The bible is the inspired word of God and must be the only source for teaching and practices in the Christian Church. Other gifts that God gives such as tradition, experience, and human reason help us to understand and live out holy scriptures, but must never alter or supersede biblical teachings.

**Christ Alone:** All of our faith and hope rests on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christianity is both inclusive and exclusive. John 3:16 promises that "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that everyone who believes in him would not perish but have eternal life" and John 14:6 proclaims "that Jesus Christ is the way, and the truth, and the life, and that no one comes to the father but through Him."

As we begin to transition into fall and celebrate "Luther Month," let us take time each day during our devotions to reflect on these core tenants of our Lutheran Christian faith and thank God for the love and teachings of Martin Luther and the love and blessings of Jesus Christ.

May God Bless You, as You ARE a Blessing for Others!

Pastor Frank Harpster ✠, Your Senior Pastor.



## **++ST. PETER'S MINISTRY TEAMS++**

### **ALTAR GUILD**

by Marianne Siegert

The ladies of the Altar Guild continue to prepare and clean up the altar for both services on Sundays and special occasions. Speaking of "special occasions," we noticed how quickly the summer came and went. We will be preparing the church for Thanksgiving and Christmas before you know it. We do all of this with joy. God bless you.

Submitted by Marianne Siegert

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

by Mary Lou Tietz

The Community Services Committee had a busy meeting in early September as we planned our fall events. This is always a busy time for us as we plan our fall programs, especially our Thanksgiving and Christmas programs.

Our Feeding Program continues every Wednesday, averaging 50 people in attendance and 35 to 50 food bags being handed out weekly. During the summer months, the attendance was much greater as we welcomed summer interns from all over the world to join us in order for them to be able to come together, once weekly, with American friends and share a good meal. Many have now returned to their countries, and it is our hope that welcoming them to St Peter's was a highlight of their visits to the United States. During the winter months, attendance will rise, somewhat, as more homeless people will join us. We are blessed to be able to welcome them, feed them, and give them a warm place to gather with others.

Along those lines, the shelter program will begin again in December. More information about that program and how you might be able to help will come in the next few newsletters and in the Church bulletin.

A Health Fair was held on Wednesday, September 25, during the feeding program, for our low income guests. It included taking blood pressures, providing flu shots, and a variety of other health screens that are so necessary for everyone and to which many of the homeless and low income do not have access. Nurses were on board to assist. The church received a grant from Thrivent to help us afford to provide this vital service.

At our monthly meeting, plans were discussed for our Thanksgiving distribution of dinners to the families who are supported by our congregation throughout the

year. We support 6 families with 20 plus children through our Thanksgiving and Christmas programs. A full dinner and some financial help, through gift cards, is provided to each of the families. We will be asking for financial support for the dinners and could also use contributions of turkeys. More information will be provided in the bulletin as the date comes closer. Distribution of dinners will take place prior to Thanksgiving on November 25th or 26th.

Our Christmas program was also discussed. Again, we will help the 6 families and children and will have a tree displayed in the Narthex beginning November 24th with gifts to be delivered to the church by the 15th of December. The tree will have stars hanging on it with items that each child in the families would like to have. We have capped a cost for gifts this year and there will be more information on this program in the next NET and also through the weekly bulletin as we approach these dates. Please be watching for more information about these programs as time seems to fly by these days, and they will be coming up before any of us are prepared!! And thank you, as always, for wanting to be a part of these ministries. We, at St. Peter's, have always been very strong in our outreach to those in need, and it is through your generosity that we are able to offer this support.

The last program is our outreach to those serving in our armed forces. We will be sending gift cards and cards from St Peter's to those who serve and are known to our congregation through family members, which include parents, aunts, uncles, and grandparents, of course. We know that these remembrances are really appreciated as we receive thank you cards from those we reach out to all the time. Our numbers of military members, however, have gone down as some have retired or their time of service is up. We had about 13 on our list and now have about 10 remaining. We want to offer you the opportunity to send us names of those who you would like us to reach out to, and you can do that by contacting Amy at the church and giving her info about who you would like to have on the list. We plan our next outreach to them in early November as a way to thank them for their service. With Thanksgiving so close, it is an especially good time to thank them!

Our next Community Services meeting will take place at the church on Wednesday, November 13th. We would love to have you join our committee and hope to see you there. Mary Lou Tietz

### **OPEN DOOR FREE LUNCH MINISTRY**

by Pastor Frank

**JOIN US FOR LUNCH ON WEDNESDAYS  
FROM 12-1:30 P.M.**

We are serving a buffet lunch and giving out free groceries to anyone who joins us every Wednesday.

Thank you to Bob & Dianna Detwiler and Steve & Trish Kiser for leading the free lunch part of the Open Door Feeding Ministry; to Doug and Linda Harry for leading the food pantry operations; our soup maker, Lee Creamer, and all the volunteers, supporters, and contributors who make this ministry possible.

We ask for your prayers, support, and volunteers are always welcome as we continue to grow and nurture this very important ministry.

### FELLOWSHIP

by Susanne Howard & Linda Grahe

A celebration of life for Frank Creamer was held on Friday, August 30, 2024, at 3:00 pm. A reception immediately followed the service in the CLC. Many friends and family members all joined together to celebrate Frank's Celebration of life. All shared many fond memories.

On September 8, 2024, after 13 years of service to St. Peter's, a celebration luncheon was held in the CLC to wish Pastor Harry and Deacon Sharey, God's Blessings, and God Speed as they move forward with their planned move to Michigan. Many tears were shed as members and family shared their fondest memories.

We celebrated our New Members on September 29, 2024, after both services in the CLC.

I also want to thank the Fellowship Team once again for all that they do, making St. Peter's family a giving, caring, welcoming, and loving family.

We are always looking for more volunteers to expand our team and collaborate with us and share in providing set-ups for various occasions. If you feel that you would like to share in our efforts to serve St. Peter's and our community, please call Susanne Howard 443-442-4285 or stop me any Sunday to inquire about joining the Fellowship Team. We share friendship and laughs as we work together to celebrate special occasions.

The Fellowship Team will continue to serve coffee, tea, and different pastries before and after each Sunday Service.

Blessings to all,  
Susanne

### FUND RAISING

by Linda Grahe & Susanne Howard

Bosco's Friends Helping Friends discount shopping passes for Tuesday, October 22, 2024 are now available in the Community Life Center after each service on Sunday mornings. Donate \$5.00 and enjoy a 25% Off shopping discount during this one day event. You may also register to win a \$100.00 Bosco's gift card.

Please feel free to spread the word about this fundraiser to your friends, family, and other groups you belong to. St. Peter's keeps 100% of the \$5.00 donations

made in exchange for each shopping pass. Monies raised will help support the mission and ministries of St. Peter's Church.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

by Paul Grahe

We will meet on Saturday, October 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the CLC with the ladies to enjoy a delicious breakfast prepared by our Chef, Pastor Frank. A free-will offering will be collected. We will move to our designated areas to do our studies. Pastor Frank will lead our discussion on the Christian Virtue-Moderation. Remember to bring your bible with you.

In order for the proper amount of food to be prepared, please see me in the CLC following the church services or call me at 443-604-8068. Come and enjoy the meal and fellowship!

### SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY (S.A.M.)

by Bridget Foster & Susanne Howard

**October 17<sup>th</sup>** -Our October special event will be our Harriet Tubman Ross foundation Tour conducted by Tonet Cuffee, fifth-generation niece of Harriet Tubman, in Cambridge, MD. We will tour many of the national sites starting with the Underground Railroad Museum and ending at Alpha Genesis for lunch. \$45.

**November 14<sup>th</sup>** - Our travel logs have been rescheduled for after the holidays. More information will be available in the upcoming months.

**December 5<sup>th</sup>** - Clear Space Theater for White Christmas. A late lunch at Boardwalk Plaza Hotel, (Victoria's Restaurant) with a choice of 4 entrée selections. More information will be posted in November. Anticipated cost \$60.

As the Senior Adult Ministry moves into 2025, our team will provide trips that will be educational and plain fun trips for all to enjoy. If you have a special place that you feel would be interesting to our members and visitors, please do not hesitate to reach out to anyone on our team. We would love to hear your suggestions.

Several events require advance sign-ups (with menu choices), so please check the SAM bulletin board in the Narthex at church to sign-up on the list and pay in advance where necessary. Please remember to make checks out to St. Peter's and in the memo line, specify "SAM TRIP."

### SON & SAND RETREAT CENTER

by Paul Grahe

In October, we welcome the College Students from Marymount University, Arlington, VA from 10/3-10/6. Let's give them a warm St. Peter's welcome.

I am planning on having a Son & Sand Greeter Meeting on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> in the retreat center following the late service. If you are interested in becoming part of this ministry of hospitality, you can contact me following the services on Sunday or call me at 443-604-8068. You are welcomed to attend the meeting on the 20th!

### **SPIRITUAL READINGS**

by Sharey Biles



The Spiritual Readings group will not meet again until January.

We are currently looking for a new facilitator for the group. Since Pastor Harry and I will be moving to Michigan, changes must be made. If you are willing to help with this process, please let Amy Morgan or me know.

I have truly enjoyed the virtual and in-person times with the wonderful participants. They have given each other insights, kindness, and honest opinions. I am grateful to God for each of them.

Blessings,  
*Sharey Biles*  
443.944.7241

### **ST. PETER'S WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

by Joann Soultis & Debbie Ryan

#### Women's Bible Studies

Ruth's Circle Bible study meets via Zoom on the first Thursday of the month at 2:00 PM. Our next meeting will be October 3.

We are using "Living Beyond Yourself, Exploring the Fruits of the Spirit," by Beth Moore. This study is designed as a weekly study, and we will be on Week 1, Day 4, Page 23 lead by Joann Soultis (202-544-7981 or [jsoultis624@gmail.com](mailto:jsoultis624@gmail.com)). Please join us!

**Also, mark your calendars for the All Lutheran Women's Retreat Thursday, November 7 thru Saturday, November 9 at the Hilton in Glen Allen, Virginia (near Richmond). These events are held only every three years so don't miss this opportunity.**

#### Women's Monthly Saturday Bible Study

This Women's Bible study meets on the third Saturday of the month at church. We meet with the Men's study group for breakfast provided by Pastor Frank and then we split into our own study groups. September 21st was canceled, so we will be studying chapter 7 in "Encouraging One Another," on October 19th.

This will be my last session as leader, so please let me know if you feel led to take on leadership of this wonderful group.

My contact information is: 410-430-4743 and [Debryan57@gmail.com](mailto:Debryan57@gmail.com).  
Blessings,  
Debbie Ryan

### **WITNESS**

by Evelyn Houston

Witnessing your faith is a bit like dancing at a wedding. You know you ought to do it: maybe you even want to do it. But deep down inside you are worried you will do it wrong, that folks will laugh at you and an awkward video of you will show up on YouTube. Yes, witnessing your faith can sometimes feel awkward and difficult, and so instead of getting up to dance, we often end up spending the time locked in a corner talking to Uncle Fred about his stamp collection, Really? Who wants that?

Because simply talking to our friends (or strangers) about our faith can feel socially difficult, many of us develop new strategies for outreach which we hope will do the job for us, without all of the awkwardness and, you know, conversation about Jesus. A good way to break the ice is to ask lots of questions to get to know them. Almost everyone likes to talk about themselves. The main point of this is to get comfortable asking questions and learning to figure out where the other person is coming from. You will find that most people have no idea what they believe or why they believe it. This opens the door for you to share what your faith means to you.

Jesus did not come so that we can feel different, Jesus came so that we could be different. Sadly, we often let our faith remain hidden, invisible, strangely quiet. At its worst, faith is just something hung on the surface of a life that is no different than the non-Christian life. At its best it is cultivated and shared and lives can be changed and miracles can happen.



## ++ST. PETER'S NEWS++

### COUNCIL NEWS

by Susanne Howard, Council Secretary

#### NO COUNCIL MEETING IN SEPTEMBER

### AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

August  
104 per week

### MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION TOTALS

#### Total Contributions as of August 25, 2024

**\$249,808.54 Year-to-Date Budget**

**\$234,967.88 Year-to-Date Received**

**\$(-14,840.66) Year-to-Date Difference**

### COMMUNION



**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP, PASTOR FRANK WILL COME TO YOU.**

If you are not able to join us for in-person worship and would like Pastor Frank to bring Holy Communion to you (doing what he can to keep you safe and comfortable). Please call the church office, and we will arrange for that to happen.

### OUR CURRENT REALITY AT ST. PETER'S

#### Life at St. Peter's

Our worship schedule offers a Contemporary Worship Service at 9:00 a.m. and a Traditional Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. We are offering Holy Communion at both services, handing you the bread and pouring red wine into your cup. We also have gluten free wafers and pre-filled cups of white grape juice for those who request/require them. Those who are not comfortable sharing in Holy Communion in this fashion are still in full Communion through the words of promise.

You are encouraged to share the "Peace of God" in whatever way you feel comfortable.

Both Services are in the Sanctuary with coffee and refreshments available in the CLC before and after each service.

**Masks are not required for anyone**, but you are encouraged to wear a mask if you are more comfortable doing so. Masks are available at the Greeter's Desk.

Hand sanitizer – available throughout the building.

We are live streaming the 10:30 Worship Service. This service is then uploaded to our website to be viewed later. The live stream is available through our website and YouTube page.

***We are still looking for a couple folks who would be willing to help with live streaming from time to time.***

**Please join us only if you feel safe and comfortable doing so. If you are not feeling well or test positive for Covid 19, please stay home.**

Please contact Pastor Frank or Council President, Evan McDermott if you have any questions.

### OTHER GATHERINGS, EVENTS, AND GROUPS

**The church building is open for in-house meetings and choir practices.**

St. Peter's Council meetings are being held in person.

Ministry Teams are meeting in whatever way they are most comfortable; either in person or via Zoom.

The building is open for outside groups. Those meetings/gatherings must make reservations coordinated through the church office.

Amy is in the office Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Please contact her via phone, text, or email. Pastor Frank has office hours Tuesdays 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; Wednesdays 1-3 p.m. and other times by appointment. Pastor Frank is always available by phone, text, or email.

Bible Studies are offered on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. - Noon. You are invited to join us in room 5 or via Zoom. (see info on the Bible Study section)

We will continue to stay connected and keep you updated with concerns and changes via the Constant Contact email system, the Call Multiplier automated prayer chain, and by mail for those who are not electronically connected.

We thank you for your continued support and partnership in the mission and ministries at St. Peter's

## ALTAR FLOWERS & COMMUNION ELEMENTS



If you would like to sponsor flowers for a Sunday morning worship service *in Memory* or *in Honor* of a loved one, you may do so by calling the church office to make those arrangements. The cost for both vases is now \$95.

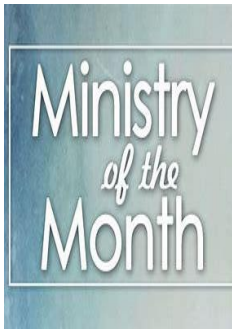
You may also sponsor Communion Elements for a particular Sunday in the same manner. The donation for sponsoring elements is \$20. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

## MEMORIAL BENCH

We are still looking for someone who is interested in purchasing a Memorial Bench for St. Peter's. This bench will be placed outside and will offer folks a place to sit down and rest when needed. It will be particularly helpful for folks who find it difficult to walk the length of the parking lot and might need to stop and rest part way. A memorial plaque will be placed on the bench in acknowledgement of the memorial.

Please contact Pr. Frank if you have any questions or would like to sponsor this bench.

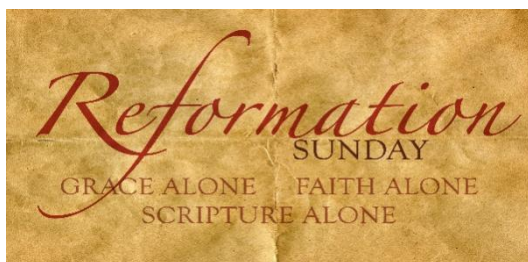
## MINISTRY OF THE MONTH



Our October Ministry of the Month is our "Open Door Feeding Ministry." This is one way that we live out our Mission "To Feed the Physically and Spiritually Hungry in the World." We are blessed to serve weekly meals, as well as hand out many bags of groceries to our Neighbors who don't have enough to eat. We ask you to prayerfully consider giving a special offering in October

to help support this life saving ministry. Please mark your donation "Open Door Feeding Ministry." Each time you sit down for a meal, please pray for those who don't have enough to eat or someone to share it with.

Thank you for your support!



**REFORMATION SUNDAY  
IS ON OCTOBER 27, 2024**

Don't forget to wear **Red** this day!

If anyone would be willing to read part of the scripture during worship this day in a language other than English, please let Pastor Frank know as soon as possible. Thank you!

*Our Oktoberfest celebration has been postponed until November 3<sup>rd</sup> because of a scheduling conflict. More details to follow./*

## PASTOR FRANK WILL BE AWAY ON VACATION

**OCTOBER 2 - 16**

Should you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact Pastor Bettye Wolinski at 410-292-2360.

Thank you to Pastor Bettye for emergency coverage and for leading our Worship Services on October 6 & 13.



## PEACH FESTIVAL



Dee Floyd & Ginny Stannard

The Peach Festival 2024 Committee held a wrap up meeting on August 21, 2024. It was decided, as in the past, to donate 10% of the proceeds to the Ocean City Crisis Ministry and 10% to the ELCA Benevolence. The remaining funds of \$9,458.79 will remain in the designated Peach Festival Fund until a decision is made on the mortgage. Once again, we thank all of you who have joined us in making the annual Peach Festival a success.

## THANK YOU FROM PASTOR HARRY AND

**DEACON SHAREY**

Dear Friends at SPLC,

This is one of those times when words seem inadequate to fully express our appreciation for all that you have been to us over the thirteen years we have been privileged to be a part of the church family at St. Peter's Lutheran. We were overwhelmed by your love and very kind words at the celebration service and meal on our last Sunday there.

Thank you for all the love and support you have given us over these years. Thank you for your cards, your many kind and gracious expressions of our relationship, and your gifts, including the very generous cash gift from the congregation. ALL have been very much appreciated and will be remembered always.

We also want to express a special word of appreciation to Pastor Frank.

Be assured that as we make this forthcoming transition in our lives, we carry you with us in our hearts and prayers. May the Lord of the Church sustain and keep you in love, joy, and, peace.

Blessings,

Pr. Harry and Deacon Sharey Biles

PS- Our new address will be 2253 Portside Avenue, Portage, Michigan 49002. Our cell phones will remain the same: 443.944.4779 (H), 443.944.7241 (S). Let's keep in touch!

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH AND/OR SHARED IN OUR CELEBRATIONS FOR PASTOR HARRY AND DEACON SHAREY!**

We had a great worship service and wonderful time of food, fellowship, and sharing afterwards. Thank you also to everyone who contributed toward the gift for the Biles.

Pastor Harry and Deacon Sharey have been a tremendous blessing for us for the past 13+ years and they will be sorely missed. Please continue to hold Pastor Harry and Deacon Sharey in your prayers as they begin the next phase in their life's journey.

**WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY**

**OUR WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY IS HELD ON WEDNESDAYS, 10:30 A.M. - NOON PLEASE NOTE THE START TIME CHANGE TO 10:30 A.M.**

The bible studies are Interactive and Hybrid. This means that you can join us in person at St. Peter's Room 5 or you can join us via zoom by following the directions below.

Everyone is encouraged to join us either way, on whatever Wednesdays you are available!

The Bible Studies will be looking at the Scripture Readings for that Sunday's Worship Service. (the readings are emailed prior to the bible study).

To join in the study via zoom, type or cut and paste the following URL in your web browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89266262232>

Or you can:

- 1. Type <http://www.zoom.com> into your web browser
- 2. Click on "Join Meeting"
- 3. Type in Meeting ID Number: 892 6626 2232

Please contact Pastor Frank if you have any questions

**THERE WILL BE NO BIBLE STUDIES ON OCTOBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 9<sup>TH</sup>, AND 16<sup>TH</sup> BECAUSE PR. FRANK IS ON VACATION.**



**++NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION++**



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Carol Lee & Charlie Bell	10/03
Red Patterson & P.J. Lyon-Patterson	10/15
Sandra & Anthony Palmisano	10/16
Chuck & Theresa Pyle	10/17
Michael & Maryanne Siegert	10/18
Matt & Desirae Class	10/27
Robert & Karen Schultz	10/28
Evelyn Houston & Paul Tishuk	10/31



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Amy Gutowski	10/01	Jon A. Gerbracht	10/19
Trudy Stock	10/03	Kathy Firor	10/21
Lee Creamer	10/08	Susanne Howard	10/21
Johnny Malinowski IV	10/08	Linda Harry	10/23
Suellen Gerbracht	10/09	Patrick Nash	10/24
Corey Rimel	10/09	Jesse Gutowski	10/25
George Trott	10/15	Tina Palmer	10/25
Veronia Bona	10/16	Linda Grahe	10/30
Billy Haynes	10/17	Ron Hager	10/31



**GIFTS & MEMORIALS**



No Gifts & Memorials received in August

**PRAYER CHAIN AND PRAYER LIST**

*I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.* Ephesians 1:16

The "Call Multiplier" automated prayer chain continues to be a valuable resource and blessing. If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer, please text or call Pr. Frank at 814-279-5732 to have a prayer request sent out. If you are requesting prayer for someone else, you **MUST** have his/her permission before sending out the request. We can share as much, or as little, information as you want to be shared. When you receive a prayer call, you are asked to pause and offer prayer for the need presented. You are then asked to continue to hold that person/need in prayer. The Automated Prayer Chain will be active daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please let Pastor



Frank know if you are not receiving the prayer calls and would like to be.

**St. Peter's prayer list:** In order to keep our prayer list up to date, names that are on the prayer list (that are published in the newsletter and bulletins) will remain on the list for **one** month. If after that month, there is still a need for that person to be held in prayer, you will need to let the church office know so we can put the name back on for another month. While we want to be praying for everyone who needs our prayers, we also have to be able to keep that list current and up to date. Please see Pr. Frank if you have any questions.

### PRAYER CONCERNS



Permission is needed to use your full name when publishing your request for prayers in both the bulletin and newsletter. Call the office.

### PRAYER CONCERNS

**Current needs:** Family & friends of Bob Raymond, Stan Gibson, Matthew Harry, Bonnie Hiewsky, Tyler Walsh, Jack Abbott, Marsha Albrect, Carol Seth, Annie Buckley, Preston & Susan, Joanne Soultis,

**Ongoing needs:** Caregivers, first responders and all on the front lines working to save lives, Tina Sheasley, Dan Barnhart, Father Joe Rushton, Sue Shoop, Jim Gardone, Fred & Mary Lou Kauffman, Don Boulden, Chuck Pyle, Savannah Bona, Mary Ann Holtzer, Dave Searle, Pastor Harry Wolpert, Steve & Janet Ellis, Jen Anderson

**Assisted Living:** Claire Deickman, Fred Deily, Mary Lou Erwin, Mim Fritz, Violet Green, Elsie Koehler, Mary Grahe, Betty Romig

**In the Military:** Gunnar Bogan, Justin Carter, Cal Cramer, Katie Cramer, Stephanie Dallocchio, Matthew Dennis, Noah Kauffman, Nicolas Nalbene, David Owens, Jarrett Patterson, Joshua Robinson, Nicholas Sorrentino, Jacob Sturgill

**Our Bishops:** Elizabeth Eaton & Bill Gohl

### G-4 Church Partners:

- Community Lutheran Church (Frankford, DE)*
- Grace of God Lutheran Church (Longneck, DE)*
- Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church (Salisbury, MD)*
- St. Albans Episcopal Church*



## ++COMMUNITY NEWS++



FLU SEASON/FREE CLINICS  
by Linda Grahe

Clinics across the Eastern Shore are making preparations for what could be a busy flu season by announcing a full schedule of clinics for the public.

Atlantic General Hospital & Health System is again providing community flu vaccination with a series of free clinics for those age 13 and older. No appointment is required. The vaccination sites and dates are:

- Oct. 2, 11 AM - 12:30 PM, Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main Street, Berlin, MD.
- Oct. 4, 8 AM - 1 PM, Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines.
- Oct. 5, 8 AM - 12 PM, Gudelsky Family Medical Center (Drive-thru), 10614 Racetrack Road, Ocean Pines, MD.
- Oct. 19, 8 AM - 12 PM, Gudelsky Family Medical Center (Drive-Thru), 10614 Racetrack Road, Ocean Pines, MD.

## ++FROM ST. PETER'S OFFICE++

**PASTORAL EMERGENCIES**  
**CONTACT PASTOR HARPSTER**  
For emergencies or after hours  
(c) 814-279-5732

### FROM THE OFFICE

Please inform the church office of any changes in your personal information: mailing address, email address, phone numbers, marriage, divorce, or new births so we can keep our records up-to-date

## OFFICE HOURS

**Monday-Thursday 8:00am - 4:00pm**  
**Friday - 8:00am-1:00pm**

## PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays - 11:00 am-1:00 pm  
Wednesdays - 1:00 pm-3:00 pm  
Other times by appointment

**STAFF**

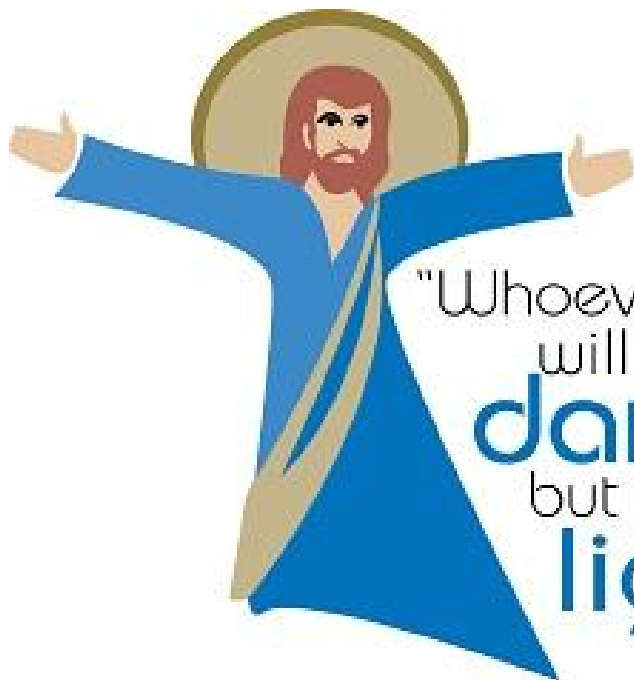
The Rev. Frank Harpster, Senior Pastor  
[fehiiif@aol.com](mailto:fehiiif@aol.com)  
The Rev. Dr. Harry Wolpert, Pastor Emeritus  
[handcoc2003@yahoo.com](mailto:handcoc2003@yahoo.com)  
Mr. Elsworth Wheatley, Minister of Music  
[Wheatleymusic@aol.com](mailto:Wheatleymusic@aol.com)  
Mr. Keith Hall, Praise Team Leader  
[Soulendeavors.keith@gmail.com](mailto:Soulendeavors.keith@gmail.com)  
Ms. Amy Morgan, Office Manager  
[amy.splcoc@comcast.net](mailto:amy.splcoc@comcast.net)

**2024 COUNCIL**

Pastor Frank Harpster  
Evan McDermott - President  
Mary Lou Tietz - Vice President  
Susanne Howard - Secretary  
Dave Wolinski - Treasurer (Non-voting member)  
Dan Holtzer - Financial Secretary (Non-voting member)  
Vonnie Brown, Dee Floyd, Bridget Foster, Linda Harry,  
Fred Kauffman, Teresa Pyle, Mike Siegert, Dex Stannard,  
Bettye Wolinski

**MINISTRY TEAMS & LEADERS**

*Altar Guild* - **Maryanne Siegert**  
*Christian Education* - **Pastor Frank**  
*Community Service* - **Mary Lou Tietz**  
*Fellowship* - **Susanne Howard**  
*Fundraising* - **Linda Grahe**  
*Mutual Ministry* - **Mary Lou Tietz**  
*Open Door Feeding Ministry* - **Linda Harry**  
*Personnel* - **Billy Haynes**  
*Property-Green Sustainable Living* - **Charlie Brown**  
*Senior Adult Ministry (S.A.M.)* - **Bridget Foster & Susanne Howard**  
*Son & Sand* - **Paul Grahe**  
*Stewardship* - **Dan Holtzer**  
*Support* - **Dan Holtzer**  
*Witness* - **Evelyn Houston**  
*Women of the ELCA* - **Joann Soultz**  
*Worship and Music* - **Ginny Stannard**



"Whoever follows me  
will **never** walk in  
**darkness**,  
but will have the  
**light of life.**"

JOHN 8:12

## OCTOBER BIBLE LESSONS

<b>Sunday, October 6</b> <b>Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Genesis 2:18-24</b> <b>Psalm 8</b> <b>Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12</b> <b>Mark 10:2-16</b>
<b>Sunday, October 13</b> <b>Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Amos 5:6-7, 10-15</b> <b>Psalm 90:12-17</b> <b>Hebrews 4:12-16</b> <b>Mark 10:17-31</b>
<b>Sunday, October 20</b> <b>Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Isaiah 53:4-12</b> <b>Psalm 91:9-16</b> <b>Hebrews 5:1-10</b> <b>Mark 10:35-45</b>
<b>Sunday, October 27</b> <b>Reformation Sunday</b>	<b>Jeremiah 31:31-34</b> <b>Psalm 46</b> <b>Romans 3:19-28</b> <b>John 8:31-36</b>

