



Dear friends in Christ,

During the months leading up to the November elections, many candidates for state office promised to do something about repairing our roads. Candidates agreed that we have a problem, but had different ideas on how to go about solving the problem.

Of course, there are already plenty of road construction projects in our part of the state. One of those projects has made the trip to visit family members in Ohio just a bit longer than usual. Since February, 2017 the southbound lanes of I-75 were closed. The detour didn't add a lot of time to the trip (unless I-94 is congested), but it did make the trip *seem* longer. Finally, after what seemed like a long wait, it reopened just in time for Thanksgiving. At last the wait was over!

This month begins with a season of waiting, the season of Advent. There are many things for which we wait in our lives. For some things, the wait is short. For other things, the wait is much longer. And for still other things, there are things we wait for that we may never see.

The season of Advent invites us to pause and reflect on the gift God gave to us in a manger in Bethlehem. It is also a season to reflect on that for which we continue to wait – that day when Jesus will come again, and God will make all things new.

As we move through this season of holy waiting, our Advent worship services will focus on the following themes:

- Hopes and Dreams (Dec. 1-2)
- When Life Doesn't Go Our Way (Dec. 8-9)
- In the Dark Times (Dec. 16)
- The Right Perspective (Dec. 22-23)

These themes are from an Advent Bible study based on the movie *It's A Wonderful Life* that we will be studying on Wednesday mornings. I hope that worship will give us the opportunity to pause and reflect on the one for whom we wait.

May you and your families be blessed by God's presence during this Advent and Christmas season.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Ken



Sunday School Christmas Program
Saturday, December 15, 5 pm

Blue Christmas Service
at St. Peter's
Sunday, December 16, 7 pm

Advent 4 Service
Sunday, December 23 9:30 am

**The Nativity of Our Lord,
Christmas Eve Worship
with Holy Communion**
Sunday, December 24, 3 pm and
5:30 pm Candlelight Service

There is no Saturday service on December 29.

Service of Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 30, 9:30 am

St. Peter's 2018 Giving Tree

This year we are helping out five local families. They are each to receive a coat, shoes, boots, pajamas, socks, underwear, pants, top, and a toy (or fun item). We also supply the entire holiday meal to each family.



Pantry packing for Christmas boxes is Thursday, December 13 at 2 pm. We can always use additional help. Please contact Robin Bell if you are able to assist. Shopping for Christmas meals will be Monday, December 17 at Neiman's. Gifts are due back to church by December 9. We will and sort on December 14 and have the families pick up on Monday, December 17. If you can make any of these times call Robin Bell 810.329.7461 or 810.335.1584 **Please, we invite anyone in our congregation if interested to join us, we can always use more hands and hearts!**

St. Clair Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service

St. Peter's will host the St. Clair area Blue Christmas Service on Sunday, December 16 at 7 p.m. The purpose of the Blue Christmas service is to acknowledge that the holidays can accent our losses especially when loved ones are missing around holiday gatherings.



The other congregations sponsoring this event are, First United Methodist, Holy Family Episcopal and First Congregational United Church of Christ. The community is invited to this special ecumenical worship service.

We are accepting orders for Christmas poinsettias that will decorate the sanctuary for the holidays. The cost is \$8. Ordering envelopes are available in your mailboxes and in the lobby.



Epiphany

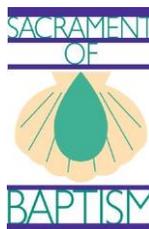
January 6, the church celebrates Epiphany, the day on which we hear the story of the wise men visiting the infant Jesus and his family. Epiphany Day is on a Sunday this year. Come join us for special services (Saturday and Sunday) that celebrate this occasion. More details in the January newsletter.

Hanging of the Greens

We will put up the tree and all the trimmings on Sunday, December 2 after the 9:30 am service. Please stay to help if you can. Many volunteers will make the job go quickly.



And....what goes up must come down! We will take down the Christmas decorations on January 6 after the 9:30 am service.



Maverick Matthew Eisen was baptized on November 10. Maverick's parents are Matt & Autumn Eisen and his sponsors are Elizabeth Manoyian, Kyle Wesch and Megan Wesch. We welcome Maverick into the fellowship of St. Peter's.



The congregation, youth, family and friends are invited to join the choir as we go Christmas caroling. We will meet at 6:30 pm on December 12 and carpool to several of our members' residences. Everyone is encouraged to join in the fun and share some Christmas cheer. After caroling, we will warm up in the Fireside Room with cookies and hot chocolate.

The Attic Angels committee would like to thank Dick and Theresa Eisen for the wonderful job they did painting the lobby. Thanks also to Jennifer MacDonald for cleaning the woodwork and furniture. We are grateful to have our welcoming space refreshed and updated.



The Sunday School Christmas Program will be held on Saturday, December 15 at 5 pm. Rehearsal for the program is on Sunday, December 2 at 9:30 am.



Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Charles Davidson who passed away on Monday, November 19. He was a long time, active member of St. Peter's. A funeral was held on Saturday, November 24 at Young's Funeral Home.

Youth & Family News

Charge



Wild Lights

The Detroit Zoo will light up the night again this holiday season with Wild Lights, a spectacular light display. For 24 nights, more than five million LED lights will illuminate trees, buildings and 265 sculptures – more than 220 of which are animals – throughout the front half of the Zoo. Experience the magic of the Detroit Zoo in winter as you take in the lights and the sights and enjoy holiday entertainment and special activities for guests of all ages. Children 2 and younger are admitted free. Tickets are \$14 for individuals 3 and older. There is also a \$7 fee for each car. Please sign up on the signup sheet. If paying by check, please make the check out to St. Peter and in the write zoo lights in the memo line. You can also pay by using the Tithe.ly app and writing zoo lights in the memo line. Money is due to Pastor Joyce by December 8. If you have any questions please see Pastor Joyce.



Registration for the middle school event *Charge* is now open. This event takes place March 22-24 at Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City. The early bird deadline is January 18. However, this event has sold out before Christmas in previous years. All that being said means we have to register early. If you are interested in more information about the event you can visit this link: <http://www.elcalivingwater.com/charge/>. If you are a middle school student and would like to attend please see Pastor Joyce A.S.A.P.

Mark Your Calendar:

High School Students to University Of Michigan

Much to Pastor Ken's dismay (and yes, Pastor Ken is going) the high school students and adults in the congregation have been invited to attend a worship service at U of M campus ministry. We are going on Sunday, January 20. We are also taking a meal of lasagna to join in fellowship after worship. If you are interested in going, making a tray of lasagna, donating a salad, or garlic bread please see Pastor Joyce for details.

Youth Christmas Party

The youth group Christmas party will take place on Wednesday, December 19th at 6:30 PM. This is for anyone in grade 6-12. Please bring a \$5 white elephant gift. If you have any questions see Pastor Ken or Pastor Joyce.



Family Game Day

Sunday, January 27 following worship we will have a family game day. We are asking that each family bring a crock pot of soup to share and at least one of their favorite card or board games. It is national chocolate cake day so Pastor Joyce will make chocolate cake to share. Please sign up on the bulletin board located in the hallway.



Tim Horton's

On Sunday, December 16 anyone in grades 6-12 is invited to Tim Horton's after worship. Please bring money to buy your own drink and lunch if you would like.



Clergy Couples

At our recent congregational meeting, the congregation voted to call Joyce Partyka Staib as Pastor of Youth & Family Ministries. This is an exciting opportunity for St. Peter's.

But it also comes with lots of questions, because not only are there two pastors here, but they are also a married couple.

As we begin this new adventure together, we've put together a few thoughts on how to make this work well for all of us:

1. This is as new as it is to us as it is to you.
2. It is OK to ask questions.
3. Neither of us can read your minds.
4. We are not messengers for each other, and we do not speak for each other.
5. We do know each other's schedules but we can't put appointments on each other's calendars.
6. If you ask one of us a question and you don't like the answer, don't come to the other expecting a different answer. (Don't play us off each other).
7. If you have a disagreement with one of us, start by trying to resolve it one on one. If you can't resolve the disagreement, don't come to the other. Contact a council executive.
8. Neither of us can attend every church function or meeting, and when we do, we both won't always be there.
9. Just because we have two pastors, it doesn't mean we are going to do everything. Besides being impossible, we are called to equip and empower congregations. St. Peter's has a history of strong congregational leadership and participation.
10. We take the same day off (Friday), unless there is an emergency or special event.
11. While Pastor Joyce has a call to a specific ministry, we are both pastors, so we will both preach and administer sacraments.
12. We are also both available for pastoral care, but Pastor Ken will be primarily responsible for hospital and home visits. Please assume that we do share information that needs to be shared pastor to pastor, and please assume that we will keep information confidential. But please don't assume that we both know every detail of your situation.

We are excited to be serving St. Peter's, and excited to be serving together. Our hope is that we will pray for and encourage one another as we set out on this new adventure.

Pastor Ken & Pastor Joyce



In Memory of Tom Poulos given by Sherry & Jay Schultz

In Memory of Louis Schwan given by Adelle Schwan



The deadline for the January newsletter is December 15.

In Need Of Prayer

Dennis Rocker, Mary Forys, Janice Convis, Guy MacIntosh, Sue Kasemeyer, Paul & Ruth Reyelts, Delores Cook, Vi Dunn, Will Tanner, Clyde Moore, Louis Eisen, Loretta Lukasak, Suzanne Morris, Elizabeth MacDonald, Sharon Ann Wheeler, Patty Armstrong, Adeline Harsch, Pat Greenwood, Don Schroeder, Patricia Jones, Marc Dease, Stacey Yax, Ruth Morris, Bernie Nummer, Carole Stiefvater, Ed Myers, Jeremy Bryan, James Mitchell, Marlene Hand, Kenneth Eisen, Connie Felstow, Linda Leist. (Please call or email the office at stpeterelca@sbcglobal.net to update information.)





Giving to St. Peter's through Tithe.ly Online

12/1	Autumn Eisen	
12/5	Vera Vogel	100 years
12/6	Courtney Green	
12/6	Kathy Nummer	
12/8	Richard Eisen	
12/8	Ron Meiselbaugh	
12/9	Erika Lindsay	
12/9	Kris McDonald	
12/13	Clyde Moore	89 years
12/14	Leonard Rose	89 years
12/15	Christine Simone	
12/17	Katy Emerich	
12/18	Diane Hodgins	
12/19	Robin Bell	
12/20	Dillon Farver	
12/21	Dorothy Schueneman	90 years
12/23	Dennis Cook	
12/23	Norman Mrosewske	86 years
12/23	Gavin Eifert	
12/23	Gary Weil	
12/24	Jack Boulter	81 years
12/27	Carol Boden	82 years
12/27	Ruth Morris	90 years
12/28	Molly Wiegand	
12/30	Gail Decator	



December Anniversaries

12/2	Nancy & Jere Diebold	18 years
12/6	Natalie & Jonathan Eifert	9 years

Download the **Tithe.ly** giving app or click the "give online" button to give. Your gift is safe / secure and goes directly to your church or ministry. Plus, you'll be able to track all your gifts, setup recurring, and more!

Mobile giving is now live!
Please read all the way through for extra info...

To give online click the Donate button or follow this link available on Facebook:

<https://tithe.ly/give?c=446503>

To download the app search for **Tithe.ly** in the App Store or Google Play

Once the app is downloaded you can search for "St. Peters Lutheran" just make sure the address is correct.

Things to know:

The processing fees are higher for credit/debit card transactions. Consider using your banking info for lower fees. There is an option to "Cover Card Processing Fees". This simply means that you will pay the extra fees instead of it coming out of your offering amount. There are different destination options. The default is the General Fund, but there are options for seasonal giving envelopes as well as memorials. Please make use of the MEMO option if you have any notes. Assistance will be available after church when announced in the bulletin. See Katy Emerich, or Carol Vogel.



Money Counters:

November 2018 Chuck Butler & Joanne Niederhauser
 December 2018 Diane Hodgins and Nancy Black
 January 2019 Katy and Allan Emerich
 February 2019 Ron and Gale Meiselbaugh
 March– August 2019 Unscheduled



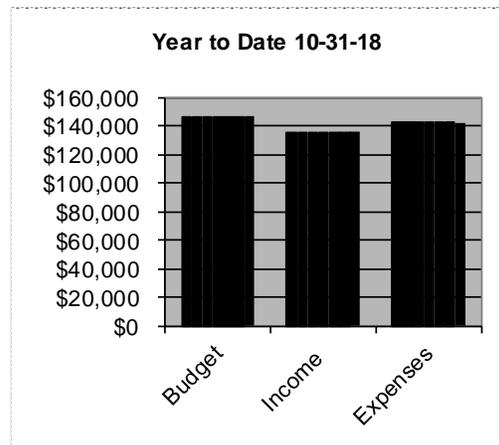
St. Peters Financial Summary

Month Ending 10/31/18

	<u>Actual for Month</u>	<u>Budgeted for Month</u>	<u>Income Over (Under) Budget</u>
General Fund Income	\$ 12,622.37	\$ 14,663.00	(2,040.63)
General Fund Expenses	<u>(13,449.52)</u>	<u>(14,663.00)</u>	
Increase (Decrease) Cash	<u>(827.15)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	

Cash Balances as of 10/31/18

General Fund	\$ 65,965.49
Designated	\$ 44,612.37
Sunday School	\$ 2,985.04





Worship Assistants

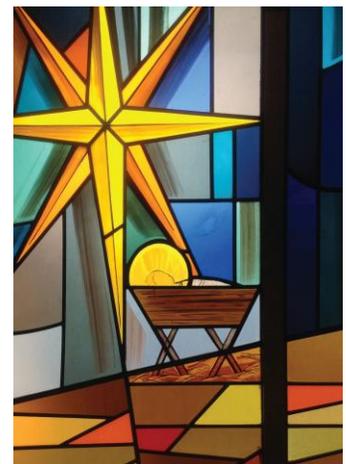
Serving in December Sunday 9:30 am

2018	Greeter	Ushers	Scripture Reader	Communion Assist.	Projectionist	Acolyte
December 2	Johanne Bodany	Ron Meiselbaugh Dereck Maier	Chris Jebrael	Patty Yax	Ann Eisen	Olivia Jones
December 9	Anna Fisher	Jon Jones Bryan Neiman	Youth		Del Vogel	Kallen Paul
December 16	Norene Stoecker	Bryan Neiman Jon Jones	Nancy Green	Need volunteer	Chris Ritter	Jack Wiegand
December 23	Ann Beier	Bob Beier Scott Bell	Dawn Lambrecht		Kathy Nummer	Case VanSingel
December 24 3 pm	Nancy Green	Jon Jones Ron Meiselbaugh	Sue Daniels	Chris Ritter Sue Daniels	Tim Evans	Courtney Green
December 24 5:30 pm	Karen Boden	Jerry Hall Bob Beier	Mary Alice Schlegel	Chris Ritter Sue Daniels	Marty Green	
December 30	Norene Stoecker	Jerry Hall Chuck Butler	Krista Rickel		Kathy Nummer	Olivia Jones

Saturday, 5 pm

December 1	Chris Ritter Janet Allington
December 8	Norene Stoecker Jacob Furtah
December 15	Chris Ritter Janet Allington
December 22	Norene Stoecker Janet Allington
December 29	No service

Altar Guild: Judy Fox & Chris Ritter



december

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Advent						1 Worship, Communion 5 pm Movie night 6 pm
2 Sunday School Christmas practice, Worship, Communion 9:30 am Decorate 10:30 am	3 Mallard's Landing 11 am	4 Council Meeting 7 pm	5 Prayer 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Confirmation 6:30 pm	6 Choir 7 pm	7 Pastor's day off	8 Worship, Communion 5 pm
9 Sunday School Worship, 9:30 am New members received Zoo lights trip 5:30 pm	10	11	12 Prayer 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Caroling 6:30 pm 	13 Choir 7 pm	14 Pastor's day off	15 Sunday School Christmas Program 5 pm
16 Worship, Communion 9:30 am Youth to Tim Horton's 10:45 am Blue Christmas 7 pm	17 Mallard's Landing 11 am	18	19 Prayer 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Youth Christmas party 6:30 pm	20 Choir 7 pm	21 Pastor's day off 	22 Worship, Communion 5 pm
23 Worship, 9:30 am	24 Christmas Eve Worship, Communion 3 & 5:30 pm 	25  <i>Christmas</i> DAY	26	27 Youth Gathering, Lansing	28 Pastor's day off	29 No service
30 Worship, 9:30 am 	31 					

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes (Draft to be approved by Council)

November 6, 2018

Opening: The meeting opened at 7:01p.m.

Council members: Pastor Ken Staib, Pastor Joyce Staib, Katy Emerich (President), Gary Houle (Vice President), Carol Vogel (Treasurer), Cindy Houle* (Secretary), Del Vogel, Alan Emerich*, Gwen Anderson*, Kris McDonald*, Karen Boden, Keri Stevens, Gary Eisen*, Jane Miller*. (Those absent from the meeting are marked with an *).

Devotions: Pastor Ken

Mutual Ministries: No report.

Review of Minutes of October Council Meeting: The minutes from October 2, 2018 were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Del Vogel and seconded by Karen Boden. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Carol Vogel shared the Treasurer's reports for October 2018. General Fund income for October was \$12,622.37. Expenses for October were \$13,449.52. Oktoberfest income was \$14,059.00. Oktoberfest expenses were \$5,271.60. The quarterly payroll taxes have been filed and paid. The safe deposit box from the bank has been emptied and its contents are now in the safe at St. Peters. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Gary Houle and seconded by Keri Stevens. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Report as submitted.

Youth and Family Ministries: Pastor Joyce Staib was welcomed and briefly discussed her plans to contact youth and their families as she starts her new position.

Suggestion box: Suggestion made by Barb J to paint the parish hall and remove the accordion walls. Issues were discussed. It was found that the accordion walls are needed for Sunday school. The issue of painting the hall will be revisited in the spring.

Old Business: Time and Talent survey has been completed and released to the congregation. The survey forms should be turned in by the end of November.

Ongoing security discussion, included a brief presentation from Scott P. Imlay city Police Chief prior to the meeting. In addition, Katy will be in contact with State Trooper Jerry B about the following training possibilities: CPR Training, First Aid Training, Training on the use of the AED, and A.L.I.C.E. training.

Mobile banking is now active. From the Google Play store you can download the app Tithe.ly. Then type in St.Peters to find our congregation to be able to donate electronically. This does not affect the way you donate if you do not choose to download the App. Envelopes will still be available and check and cash donations will be accepted as always.

Rental for Home School Co-op. No further contact was made by the Co-op about possibly using St. Peters Hall once per week.

New Business: None

Committee Reports:

Fellowship Outreach: Jane Miller, no report.

Worship: Gary and Cindy Houle, no report

Parish Education: Keri Stevens and Kris McDonald. No report, although it was noted the preparations continue for the children's Christmas program.

Stewardship: Alan Emerich and Karen Boden, no report, although as previously noted, the Time and Talent surveys are now active and should be turned in by the end of November.

Property: Del Vogel and Gary Eisen, The snow contract has been signed with St. Clair Lawn Care.

Youth and Family Ministries: no report.

Next meeting: Next meeting, December 4, 2018.

Devotions for November meeting: Katy Emerich.

Closing: Motion to close the meeting was made by Karen Boden. Motion seconded by Keri Stevens. Meeting adjourned 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Houle



St. Peter's Light

December 2018

Welcoming all to know and love Jesus.

	Phone	E- mail	Office Hours
Ken Staib Pastor	Home: 586-648-6955	pastor.kenstaib @yahoo.com	Mon. - Thurs.
Joyce Staib Pastor of Youth and Family	Home: 586-648-6955	rev.jpartykastaib @gmail.com	By appointment
Renee Evans Secretary	Home: 810-329-7423 Cell: 810-824-2171	stpeterelca@sbc global.net	Mon. - Thurs. 9 am –12 pm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Communion:

Every Saturday

1st and 3rd Sunday

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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