

January 2025

Saint Peter's Lutheran Church

2570 St. Peter's Church Road

Salisbury, NC 28146

Church Office: (704)279-5054

Church Email: saintpetersnc@gmail.com

Church Website: saintpetersle.org

Church Staff



Church office

Rev. Sue Lynn White

(770) 833-1922 (cell)

(704) 209-1236 (parsonage)

pastorsuelynn@gmail.com

Email: saintpetersnc@gmail.com

Financial Secretary: Jennifer Welch

Secretary: Dena Najarian

Music Director/Organist: Lucy Shue

(704) 637-1425

Custodian: Ronnie & Betty Pierce

Preschool Director: Charlene Childers

(704) 209-1693

Council

Council President: Jan McCulloh

Council Vice President: Dr. Alan King

Treasurer: Linda Lambirth/ Ken Kluttz

Council Secretary: Kathy Lentz

Outreach: David Najarian

Indoor-Property: Dr. Alan King

Outdoor Property: Frank King

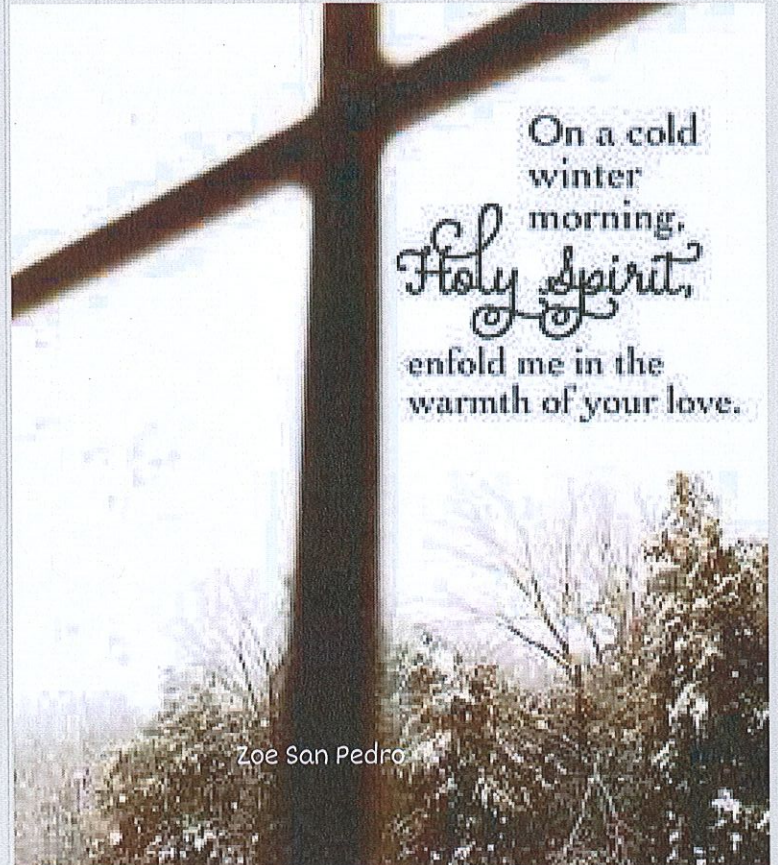
Christian Education: Nathan Pressley

Cemetery: Ken Kluttz

Youth: Jan McCulloh

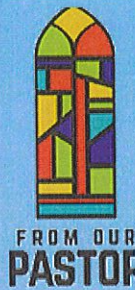
Care for Congregation: Glenda Vickers

Worship/Music: Mark Shue



Nursing Home/Homebound

- **Junior Lyerly: 1435 Sides Road, Salisbury, NC 28146**
- **Sue Misenheimer: Trinity Oaks (306-A)**
728 Klumac Road, Salisbury, NC 28144
- **Judy Peeler: Trinity Oaks (D-4)**
820 Klumac Road, Salisbury NC 28144
- **Buddy Waller: 9325 Fisher Road, Rockwell, NC 28138**
- **Brenda H. Trexler: Brookdale Senior Living (#28)**
2201 Statesville Boulevard, Salisbury, NC 28147
- **Lynn DeBerry: 3665 St. Peter's Church Road**
Salisbury, NC 28146
- **Jean Holshouser: Trinity Oaks (251-D)**
728 Klumac Road, Salisbury, NC 28144
- **Marcia Ritchie: 403 Garner Drive, Salisbury, NC 28146**



“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will...” (Ephesians 1:3-5 NRSVUE)
New Year’s Blessings my brothers and sisters in Christ! I pray your Christmas was full of joy and delight, whether you gathered with family and friends or had a simple, quiet time to celebrate “the Word made flesh.”

I love this passage from Ephesians which we get on the first Sunday of the New Year! Mainly because it makes me think of my mom and dad and how almost fifty-eight years ago they adopted me. The story of my adoption is something I have always known. Mom would get me tucked into bed, in my pink ballerina sheets, and begin by saying, “God answered our prayers for a little girl.” She and Dad couldn’t have children together and all she wanted was a little girl to complete the blended family...a child that would be theirs. I remember seeing the sheer happiness and awe on her face as she told and retold the story so many times over the years...long into my adulthood. I also remember the arguments and fights I would get into when kids would tease me about having two moms and two dads. Even though my anger would always get the best of me...my comeback line knocked the wind from their sails...”Well, at least my parents chose me!! Your parents didn’t have a choice with you!”

Now...I know that isn’t a very nice thing to say and as a pastor now, I do slightly regret my actions. But there has always been something special about the fact my parents got to choose me to be their daughter! Granted, they had to wait until they knew there was even a child to be had before they could choose me. Never the less, it was still their choice!

That is why I think it is awesome that Paul reminds us that God “chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world!” Before the world was even created, God knew we would be adopted into God’s eternal family. Not for any special reason. Not because we deserve it. It was done because God loved us!

As we begin 2026, may we always remember that in God’s good pleasure, we were chosen. And not only us...but all people were chosen. So as God’s beloved children, it is our duty to reflect God’s love to all we encounter. By doing so, we might meet a sibling in Christ we need in our lives just as much as they need us in theirs!

May God bless you with hope, peace, joy, and lots of love in 2026!

Pastor Sue Lynn



What is Serving — Really?

I need a thousand things every day. I have big needs and small needs. Everyone around me does too. Sometimes the people around me see my needs before I do. The real treasure is when we act on what we see. When we shoot the text to the co-worker who had a tough day or move the elderly neighbor's trash can to the curb.

A good measure of our spiritual health is our depth of concern for other people.

As we allow the Gospel to change our hearts, we will develop a deep care for other people. Our attention will begin to turn away from ourselves and to the needs of others (Galatians 5:13). A good measure of our spiritual health is our depth of concern for other people. Eventually, our hearts are so in tune with what Jesus is doing around us, He begins to use us to meet the needs of others.

Serving in the Church

The Gospel is enacted through the local church all across the world. The church is us: people who love Jesus serving others by parking cars, holding babies, to praying with others, pouring coffee, and opening their homes.

In this, God changes us. Serving in the local church is a vehicle to discover how we are made and how the Lord can use us. Serving provides us the opportunity to know more about how we are created: our likes and dislikes, what we can do well and what we cannot.

God fills in the picture for us. We discover more about ourselves and how He is growing us while He uses us to meet the needs of others. We learn best by doing.

A Beautiful Relationship

The discovery process of how God can take our unique selves and join with the work He is doing will last our entire lives. As we grow, as stages of life change, as we meet new people and participate in new activities, new ways to serve others will become clear to us. Our heart posture must always be the same: what can I do to serve other people?

Every week, we are given the opportunity to practice putting our attention less on ourselves and more on others. We will not be perfect. We may find ourselves serving in an area that doesn't match our gifting and need to adjust. We may also find we love a group of people or an area of ministry more than we thought we could. Either way, we jump in and start.

In this, God weaves a beautiful relationship between both working in us and through us.

It is seeing what God can do.

Find a committee to serve others...

YOU have so much to offer!

Ways you can SERVE



Volunteer at our Food Pantry. We need volunteers on Friday to scan and package, and on Saturdays to distribute., the second and third Saturday of each month.. Reach out to Debbie Hill if interested.



Meals on Wheels delivers meals to shut-ins. If you would like to be a driver and brighten someone's day reach out to George Lentz on how you can help.



Our church prepares and serves meals at Jeannie's kitchen every other month for the homeless. You can serve by reaching out to the group that is hosting to see what they need help with.



Our garden ministry is not just during the summer months. Reach out to Lorrie Olive if you would like to be involved in this ministry.



We have new council assignments for committees. Please consider joining one of the committees and helping with our ministries. You can reach out to the council member assigned to the committee you would like to join.

Jan McCulloh: Youth

Dr. Alan King: Indoor Property

Frank King: Outdoor Property

David Najarian: Outreach

Glenda Vickers: Care of Congregation

Nathan Pressley: Christian Education

Ken Kluttz: Cemetery

Mark Shue: Music & Worship



- Indoor/Outdoor Property: 1st Thursday of each month @ 6:30pm
- Christian Ed./Youth: 2nd Monday of each month @ 6:00pm

you're in our PRAYERS

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

Disciples of St. Peter's:

Guy & Betty Puckett, Jim & Phyllis Cornelison, Jake & Phyllis Trexler, Jerry Sides, Ernie & Linda Cooper, Phil & Carol Boyette, Brenda H. Trexler, Thelma Barger, Judy Peeler, Lynn DeBerry, Jean Holshouser, Marcia Ritchie, Mary Miller, Buddy Waller, and Sue Misenheimer.

Friends of St. Peter's Family:

Chris Eller (friend of Pat Kluttz), Jerry (Marcia Ritchie's brother), Annette McKinney, Vicki Brawley (friend of Joy King), Ruth Small (Debbie Hill's aunt), Susan and Ronnie Loflin, Lisa Roseman, Sheila Barringer, Johnny Earnhardt, Emil Isbanioly (Leslie Puckett's nephew), Rachel (PSL's Niece) Angie Parker Hughes, Kitty "Surachna" Eller (friend of Pat Kluttz), Stacy Fraley, friends & family of James and Nell Poole (Makenzie Lyerly's grandparents) upon their deaths.



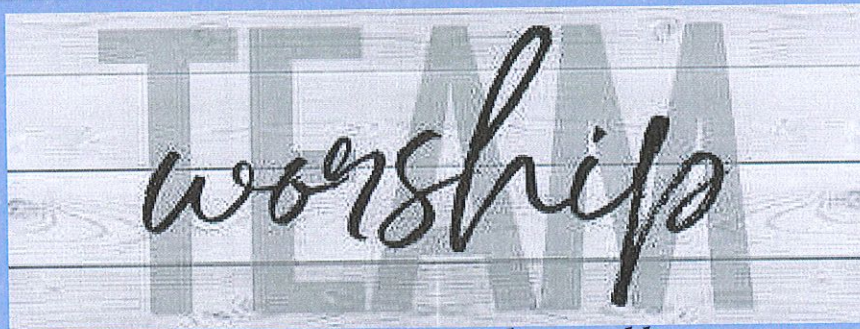
- 3- Derek Porter
- 6- Aldryn Harwood
- 8- Aaron & Kathryn Lambirth
- 9- Linda Cooper
- 10- Warren Ratliff
- 12- Judy Peeler, Abigail White
- 13- Lynn DeBerry
- 14- Mary Trexler
- 18- Graham Lyerly
- 20- Bobbie Lyerly, Glenda Vickers,
Buddy Waller
- 21- Kent Cozart
- 26- Morgan Barnes
- 29- Mark Misenheimer
- 31- Dustin Ritchie, Oliver Shue



26- M/M Vic Cozart



Emma Blackwell
Ethan DeBerry
Daniel Troutman
Bryan Smart



Just as the son of man came not be served but to serve.

Matthew 20:28

Lector(s)

1/4: Ian Shue
1/11: Alan King
1/18: Ellen Troutman
1/25: Linda Lambirth

Assistant Minister

1/4: Ian Shue
1/11: Mark Shue
1/18: Jan McCulloh
1/25: Marty Puckett

Live stream: Nathan Pressley

Organist: Lucy Shue

Power Point: Brian White

Communion Preparers

1st Sunday: Crystal Nesbitt
2nd Sunday: Jan McCulloh
3rd Sunday: Lorrie Olive
4th Sunday: Linda Lambirth
5th Sunday: Eleanor Morgan

Council Members Assisting with Holy Communion

January: David Najarian & Alan King

Sound System

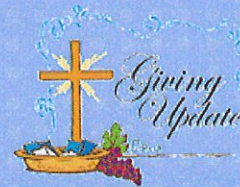
1st Sunday- Daryle Olive
2nd Sunday- Duncan White
3rd Sunday- William Barger
4th Sunday- Duncan White
5th Sunday- William Barger

Ushers

1/4: David Najarian, Alan King, Marty & Carson Puckett
1/11: Alan King, Bobby Lambirth, Kathy & George Lentz
1/18: David Najarian, Alan King, Debbie Hill, Jamie Lyerly
1/25: Alan King

Money Counters

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



St. Peter's Giving & Attendance

Total given for December: \$15,167.12

Monthly Requirement: \$16,002.92

Deficit for December: \$835.80

Average Attendance for December: 63



gathered together

The ladies of the church had a day of fellowship on December 6th in the fellowship hall where they played a getting to know you BINGO game, shared a snack, made a prayer craft, and played a game to exchange gifts. We even celebrated Jean Holshouser's 93rd birthday. If you have an ideas for a women's fellowship activity please see Jan McCulloh. We have a great time when we are together and would love for many more of the women from our church to join in.



I love my church family!



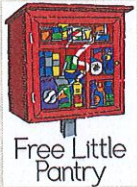
Altar Flowers

If you would like to place flowers on the altar in memory or honor of someone, please contact Lorrie Olive or Dena Najarian to sign up.



Church Envelopes

Offering envelopes for the new year are ready for pick-up in the Narthex.



Blessing Box

Our little blessing box has been used frequently during the past two months. If you would like to contribute to this mission you can place items in the Narthex labeled "Blessing Box" or place them directly into the box. When placing in the box, make sure that the food is in closed containers and the door is latched when finished.



Food Pantry

For the month of December we served 27 neighbors with 680lbs. of food. This is the last month that we will be distributing food under Rowan Helping Ministries. We will continue to serve our neighbors through our food pantry at the same time and days each month, but this will allow us to connect more with the individuals that use this ministry. Our new name is East Rowan Community Food Bank.



Us Stock the Shelves!

Our Food Pantry shelves are looking a little bare! There has been an increased need for food in our community over the last several months. The boxes we receive from Rowan Helping Ministries each month have been getting less and less with the many federal cut backs in funding. We have been using the gracious donations from the many food drives in the community to supplement those boxes in order to help our neighbors have greater variety and meal options. We have also noticed an increase use in our Blessing Box. There is an obvious for food for those in need for our area.

What is needed? Just about anything can help!

Packets of tuna/chicken, Easy Mac/Chef Boyardee cups, ramen noodles, peanut butter & jelly, grits, oatmeal, rice/pasta packets, pasta & sauces, shelf stable milk, canned fruits, canned vegetables, dried beans, pancake mix, syrup, muffin mix, canned meat, cereal, rice.

Preparing Christmas Bags for Christmas Eve



Dear St. Peter's Lutheran,
Thank you so much for the Christmas gift! My family and I appreciate your generosity and love! It is my joy to be part of this community of faith not only as a spiritual leader but as a part of a family. As we enter 2026, I pray that God blesses each of you with laughter to get through the good times, a shoulder to cry on during the tough times, and a spirit of giving in love to those in need of God's light to shine on them.

Love & Blessings!
Pastor Sue Lynn

thank
you

We would like to express
our deepest thanks to the
Saint Peter's Congregation
for being Dad's childhood
home and now his forever
home with Jesus.

Our Eternal Thanks,
Garry Lynd
Cathy Lynd

*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

*Your donation makes a significant impact
on the lives of our patients.*

Dear St. Peter's Family,
I want to thank everyone
for my my Christmas gift
and for all the kind words
and encouragement given
to me since I started as
Secretary for our church. I
am very blessed to be a
part of this congregation
and enjoy giving back to
my church. I wish each of
you to have a blessed new
year.

Love,
Dena Najarian

Dear St. Peter's Church Family,
Thank you for the kindness you've
shown our family since we started
attending this wonderful church. We
greatly appreciate Pastor Sue Lynn
baptizing our grandson Jaxon in
November. It was such a thoughtful
service, and our extended family felt
welcomed by Pastor Sue Lynn and
the entire congregation.

Liberty and Chase (Jaxon's parents)
love the beautiful baptismal
keepsake box presented to Jaxon
from the church. It's large enough to
hold his Bible, candle, and other
keepsakes from that special day.
Also, being able to celebrate
together with our family after
church was so convenient; thank you
for letting us use the basement and
kitchen.

Additionally, we appreciate the
prayers, good wishes, and cards for
Amy's health and Jaxon's surgery. It
always helps knowing that others are
lifting us in prayer! May each of you
have a happy, healthy, and peaceful
2026.

God bless,
Amy and Kent Cozart (and family)

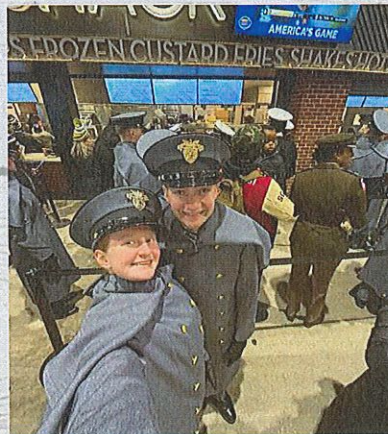
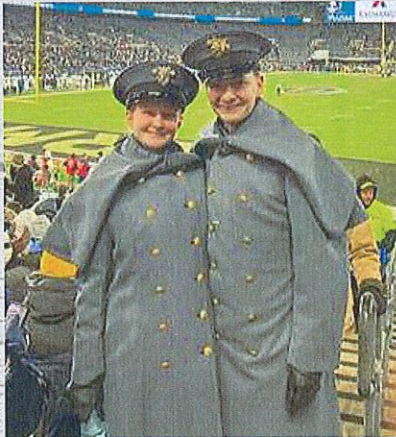
YOUTH

Please let the church office know what what you are doing. We would love to celebrate with you!

- Oliver Shue is wrestling at Carson High School.
- Ian Shue recently performed in Lessons & Carols at Catawba College.



- Emma Blackwell & Collin Davis at the Army Navy game.



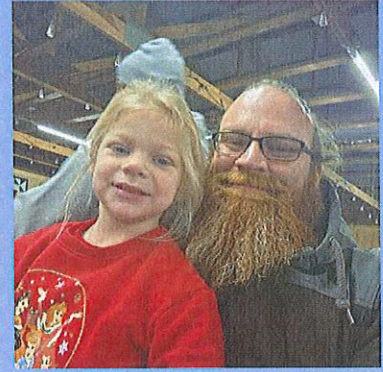
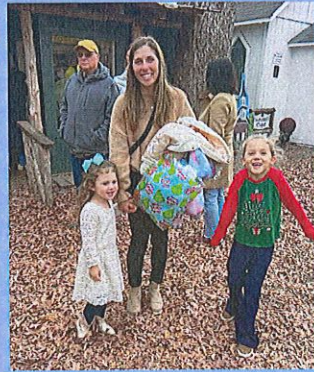
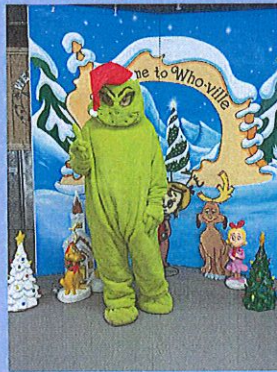
Congratulations to Joseph Najarian for being awarded Firefighter of the year and receiving a life saving award from Gold Hill Volunteer Fire Department.

GATHER
with us

Dear Church Family,

The preschool had a busy month in December making Christmas crafts, learning Christmas songs for their Christmas program, and finally singing those songs at Happy's Farm in front of family and friends. They had a fun-filled morning participating in farm activities, visiting with Santa and the Grinch, eating cotton candy and giving a concert.

This upcoming month will start our 2nd half of the year and we hope that it is filled with just as much learning and happiness as the first year has brought. Thank you, for supporting the young minds of these students!



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

"LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL OF YOUR HEART, MIND, AND STRENGTH," DEUT. 6:5

"DO NOT FEAR, FOR I AM WITH YOU; DO NOT BE DISMAYED, FOR I AM YOUR GOD." ISA. 41:10

"LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF" MATT. 22:39

"YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN; YOU WERE BOUGHT WITH A PRICE, THEREFORE GLORIFY GOD WITH YOUR BODIES" 1 COR. 6:20

"SET YOUR MINDS ON THINGS ABOVE, NOT ON EARTHLY THINGS," COL. 3:2

"TAKE DELIGHT IN THE LORD, AND HE WILL GIVE YOU THE DESIRES OF YOUR HEART," PSA. 37:4

"SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND ALL THESE THINGS WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU AS WELL." MATT. 6:33

more @ alexandrakulick.com

Rockwell Rural Winter Weather Safety Message

As colder temperatures move into our area, we want to remind everyone to stay safe and prepared during winter weather conditions.

Home Heating Safety

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from heaters and fireplaces.
 - Never use your oven or stove to heat your home.
- Have all heating equipment cleaned and inspected yearly by a qualified professional.
- Make sure your home has working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Roadway Safety

- Slow down and increase following distance, ice can be hard to see.
 - Clean ALL snow and ice off your vehicle before driving.
- Keep an emergency kit in your car (blankets, water, flashlight, charger, etc.).
 - Avoid travel if conditions worsen.

Generator Safety

- Only use generators outdoors and away from windows and doors.
- Never run a generator inside a home, garage, or enclosed space.
 - Allow equipment to cool before refueling.

Space Heater Tips

- Plug heaters directly into a wall outlet, never a power strip.
- Turn heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep.

Check on Your Neighbors

- Elderly family members, neighbors, and pets need extra care during extreme cold. Our crews are here and ready to respond, but your safety starts at home. Stay warm, stay aware, and as always, if you need us we're on the way.



The poinsettias that grace our sanctuary this Advent and Christmas Season are given to the Glory of God and in Honor and in Memory of our loved ones.



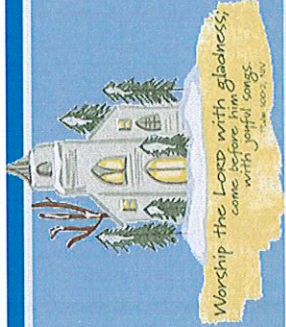
<u>In Honor</u>	<u>Honeored By</u>
Jean Holsouser	Julie Lippard and Jennie Bost
Crystal Nesbitt	Larry & Zach Nesbitt
<u>In Memory</u>	<u>Remembered By</u>
Blanch & Ed Drew	Joy & Alan King
Family who passed away	Don & Kathy Boehm
Friends who passed away	Don & Kathy Boehm
Rex Holsouser	Julie Lippard & Jennie Bost
Frank & Elsie King	Joy & Alan King
Frank & Elsie King	Frank & Barbara King
Jeffrey King	Mom & Dad
Jettie Mae & Reid Miller	Jean Holsouser
Trula & Guy Morgan	Ken & Joyce
Joe Moss	Mona Moss
Morris Olive & Deloris Pender	Daryle & Lorrie Olive
Hazel & Haywood Trefler	Pat Kuttiz
James Trefler	Mary, Jennifer, Justin, Kaitlyn, Montana & Paisley
James "Ab" Trefler	Brenda
John D. Trefler	Brenda
Marie & Hayden Varnadore	Daryle & Lorrie Olive

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<u>In Honor</u>	<u>Honeored By</u>
Jean Holsouser	Julie Lippard and Jennie Bost
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January 2025



St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day 	2	3
4 9:30 am- Coffee time/Sunday School/ 10:30 am- Worship-PSLW	5 Christian Ed./ Youth 6:00	6	7	8	9	10 RHM Food Pantry 9-10:30
11 8:00am- Council Meeting 9:30 am-Coffee time/ Sunday School 10:30 am- Worship-PSLW	12	13	14	15	16	17 RHM Food Pantry 9-10:30
18 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast 9:30 am- Coffee time/ Sunday School 10:30 am-Worship- PSLW	19 Martin Luther King Day	20	21	22	23	24
25 9:30 am-Coffee Time/ Sunday School 10:30 am- Worship-PSLW	26	27	28	29	30	31

Current Year

**** Unposted transactions have been included on this report ******ASSETS****CHECKING ACCOUNTS****SOUTH STATE CHECKING**

General Budget	\$14,540.14
Good Neighbor Fund	573.04
Maintenance	4,481.42
Special Projects	1,888.72
Sunday School	3,507.14
E. Rowan Food Pantry	3,739.86
Mission Trip	966.86
youth K5 - 12	2,521.33
Back Pack - Noisy Offerin	141.59
Roofing Account	1,883.00
Church Endowment Fund	4,956.63

Subtotal Checking Accounts	39,199.73
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SAVINGS/INVESTMENT ACCTS

Reserve Acct (2996)	10,150.29
Capital Improve (3350)	1,658.08
Memorial Fund (2988)	6,063.23
Cemetery CD-5yr. (0434)	105,499.99
Perpetual Cemtry (3803)	1,459.60
Cemetery (7705)	71,265.48
Music Savings Account	20,174.41
Scholarship - F&M (2147)	65,513.93
W.Trexler Scholarship	62.67

Subtotal Savings/investment Accts	281,847.68
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OTHER ASSETS

Sales Tax receivable	1,147.55
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TOTAL ASSETS

\$322,194.96

LIABILITIES**CURRENT LIABILITIES****PAYROLL W/H PAYABLE**

941 Taxes Payable	\$2,553.01
NC W/H	355.00

Subtotal Payroll W/h Payable	2,908.01
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TOTAL LIABILITIES

2,908.01

FUND BALANCE

Fund Balance	\$319,286.95
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TOTAL EQUITY

319,286.95

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

\$322,194.96
