



# THE COURIER

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bethlehem, PA

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## FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Partners in Ministry,

Life is filled with beginnings and endings. At the end of November, we came to the end of another Church Year and began a new Church Year with the Season of Advent. At the end of December, we will come to the end of another secular year, as we say "farewell" to 2011 and embark on the New Year of 2012.

During the Season of Advent, we hear Gospel readings about the End Times, the Day of the Lord, when Jesus will return to separate the sheep from the goats. We also hear the story of John the Baptist, who proclaimed a relationship with God – for all who would repent, literally turn their lives around, away from sin and toward God. And we hear the conversation between Mary of Nazareth and the Angel, as a young woman's understanding of life was changed, and she embarked on a new, potentially dangerous journey as a faithful follower of God.

In the midst of it all, we know that we are preparing for our own endings and beginnings as a congregation. This will be our last Christmas together as Pastor and People. Next year another voice will share the wonder of the Nativity Story.

Yet, because we have been connected for twenty years, there is a bond that will not end. Although I cannot worship at St. Peter's after my retirement, my husband and I will continue to be members, as we seek out another congregation in which to become associate members. That means that while we continue to hold St. Peter's in our prayers, we will also continue to give a portion of our tithe to support the mission and ministry of this congregation.

As you have heard me say before, this is an important time for each member of St. Peter's to deepen his or her commitment to this shared mission and ministry. The months ahead will bring both challenges and new beginnings. As you work together, support each other, and give generously of your time, talent, and financial resources, St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church can become an even stronger presence of God's love in the midst of this community and the world.

Advent and Christmas Blessings!

The Rev. Edith B. Roberts  
Senior Pastor

## December Worship Highlights

Sunday, December 4



Second Sunday of Advent

8:15 & 11:00 AM – Holy Communion in the Nave  
6:30 PM – Holy Communion in the Chapel

Wednesday, December 7

10:30 AM – Holy Communion and Healing in the Chapel

Sunday, December 11



Third Sunday of Advent

8:15 & 11:00 AM – Holy Communion in the Nave  
6:30 PM – Holy Communion in the Chapel

Wednesday, December 14

10:30 AM – Holy Communion in the Chapel

Sunday, December 18



Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Service of Lessons and Carols*

8:15 & 11:00 AM – Holy Communion in the Nave  
6:30 PM – Holy Communion in the Chapel

Wednesday, December 21

10:30 AM – Holy Communion in the Nave



Saturday, December 24

*Christmas Eve – The Nativity of Our Lord*



4 PM – Service of Holy Communion with Sunday Church School Christmas Pageant in the Nave

7 PM – Candlelight Service of Holy Communion in the Nave

10 PM – Candlelight Service of Holy Communion in the Nave

Sunday, December 25

*Christmas Day*

10:30 AM – Holy Communion in the Nave

Wednesday, December 28

10:30 AM – Holy Communion in the Chapel

The Courier of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Courier is published eleven times a year by St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 474 Vine Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015 (a non-profit organization). The Senior Pastor is the Rev. Edith B. Roberts. All questions about the publication can be addressed to the editor at the Church Office, telephone 610-867-0519.

## November Council Highlights

### The following motions were approved:

- To release Richard G. Brown from the rolls upon his written request.
- To reappoint Dot Nagy to a one-year term as Financial Secretary.
- To reappoint Adam King to serve a one-year term as Assistant to the Treasurer.
- To reappoint Kim Frankenfield to serve a one-year term as Assistant to the Treasurer.
- To authorize the Treasurer and Finance Committee members working on the end of the year finances to use the remaining Trust Fund interest and/or growth income to pay our financial commitments should there be a deficit.
- To present a slate of nominees for the 2012 Nominating Committee at the January 29<sup>th</sup> Congregational Meeting:

Bruce Billiard, Chairperson

Barry Ihle

Gloria Jedinak

Julie Konjoian

Debbie Schneckner

Tony Strobel

Barbara Taylor, Staff Liaison

- To accept with deepest regret the retirement letter from Pastor Roberts, effective June 30, 2012, with sincere appreciation for her exemplary ministry as the spiritual leader of St. Peter's.
- To accept with regret Pastor Spieker's letter announcing his resignation as Visitation Pastor effective November 30, 2012, with recognition for his committed pastoral care to so many people of St. Peter's.
- To accept with regret Associate in Ministry Barbara Taylor's letter announcing her retirement effective December 31, 2012, with thanksgiving and recognition for her many years of caring, faithful ministry to the mission and ministry of St. Peter's.



### A Building Use Request was Granted:

- To allow the Lehigh Valley Chinese Church to hold a Bible Study from Noon-1:30 PM on Thursdays in the Social Room for the remainder of 2011.

## Women of the ELCA

The Tuesday Morning *Women of the ELCA Bible Study* will meet on December 6 and 20, beginning at 9:30 AM in the Trauger Room. The theme verse for December's study is Mark 4:40 ---

"Jesus said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?'" All women of St. Peter's and friends are welcome to be part of the study.

*Bach Ministry of Hospitality* is scheduled for May 5 and 12, 2012. Mark your calendar and save the dates.

*Christmas Ingathering* - We still need 30 containers of shaving cream - by **December 4<sup>th</sup>**! Place your gifts in the box outside the Church Office. When the gifts from all the Lutheran congregations in Bethlehem are gathered, nice health kits for our neighbors in shelters can be assembled.

## Women's Bible Study with a Christmas Tea

On Tuesday, December 20, come to the Trauger Room for the 9:30 AM Women of the ELCA Bible Study and bring along your favorite Christmas tea cup or mug and a goodie to share. After a study of the Gospel of Mark, including the birth in Bethlehem and some of the miracles of Jesus' ministry, the group will adjourn to the Reception Area for their annual Christmas tea.

All women are welcome for the study time and the Tea. If you are coming just for the Tea, plan to come about 11 AM to the Reception area. There will be a variety of teas and also coffee available, as well as extra cups/mugs, and the yummy goodies and snacks that each person brings along.

The Bible Study and Tea are a fine way to take time to focus on the true meaning of Advent and Christmas and to enjoy time with sisters in Christ. Plan to make this event part of your Christmas preparations. Friends and family are also welcome!



## Kathy's Korner

Part of my daily routine is to spend time with a newspaper or news broadcast to keep up with current events on the local, national, and international level. I believe that this is part of responsible citizenship. But I have to confess that I am finding myself increasingly depressed and discouraged by what is happening in the world around us. The global economy is fragile, with some nations on the verge of economic collapse. Many of the world's citizens suffer from economic challenges and/or political oppression. For those lucky enough to have a democratic form of government, our elected officials often disappoint us with their failure

to focus on the important issues affecting our daily lives. If there is dialogue, it is angry and confrontational. Public figures shock us with their personal indiscretions and their inability to accept responsibility. Where are we to turn for hope and guidance?

The prophet Isaiah reminds us that:

*Surely God is my salvation;  
I will trust and will not be afraid,  
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation. (Isaiah 12:2)*

I have always found great comfort in this passage for it reminds me who is really in charge. During times of personal distress, I have sung or chanted this verse to keep my focus on the reality that God is with us—always! This month we look forward to the celebration of the birth of Christ—Immanuel—God with us—in human form. May this Advent season bring you the gifts of hope and peace.

God's blessings to you,  
Kathy

### *Special Congregational Meeting*

The Special Congregational Meeting will take place in the Nave on Sunday, December 4, at approximately 12 Noon – immediately following the 11 AM worship service. The purposes of the meeting are to:

1. elect members to serve on the Congregation Council.
2. adopt the 2012 Budget.
3. approve ELCA mandated changes to the Constitution.

The Congregation Council will present the Nominating Committee's slate of nominees for the Congregation Council positions. (See the biographies on page 7 of this edition.) Any nomination from the floor during the meeting must be done with the approval of the nominee, and a written biographical sketch must be available at the meeting.

Copies of the proposed 2012 Budget and the changes to the Constitution were made available on November 13. If you need a copy, please see an usher. Be sure to study it and bring it back to the December 4 meeting. If you have questions about the budget, please speak with Pastor Roberts, Treasurer Joe Bleier, or Finance Committee Chairperson Adam King.

Come help plan for St. Peter's future!



## Calling All Chairpersons

Annual Reports are due in the Church Office no later than Sunday, December 11. Compiling the report requires a great deal of time. You can help the office staff and the volunteers by having your report in on time. Thanks for your help!

## Offering Envelope Boxes

2012 offering envelopes will be available in the lower narthex on Sunday, December 11. Please pick up your box and deliver those of family and neighbors.

## End-of-Year Contribution Information

If you want a printed copy of your financial gifts to St. Peter's during 2011, please contact the Church Office by December 12. Financial Secretary Dot Nagy can print the statements as she closes out the year on the computer.

If you want a financial donation to be included in St. Peter's 2011 fiscal year, it must be received in the Church Office by noon on Thursday, December 29. Any monies received after that time will be included in St. Peter's 2012 fiscal year.



## Holiday Hours for the Church Office

The Church Office will be closed on December 23, 26, and 30. As always, in case of a pastoral emergency, call the Church Office. Let the phone ring about 10 times. The voicemail will then provide the names of Staff members on call.

## Calling the Church Office

During the upcoming holiday season, staff members will be taking some vacation time. As always, call the Church Office to get the names and telephone numbers of those on call for emergencies. Please do not leave messages at the homes of staff members, because, if they are away, it might be a long time before your message is heard.



## Food for the Manger



During Advent, all who worship at St. Peter's are asked to bring Food for the Manger, as we prepare for the birth of the Christ Child, who grew up to give his very body as food for the world.

Beginning on Sunday, November 27, and continuing through Christmas, please bring one or more non-perishable food items each time you come to worship. Place your gifts at the manger in the lower narthex. We'll deliver the donations to the Food Bank just at the time when their supplies are running low for the winter.

May we help to feed God's hungry children in the name of the Newborn King!

## ELCA World Hunger Appeal

On each of the four Sundays of Advent, St. Peter's children and youth will participate in the morning worship services by receiving a special offering for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

As we prepare for our wonderful holiday feasts, please remember the hungry people of our world. On Sundays, November 27 and December 4, 11, and 18, you are invited to share an offering received by children and youth of St. Peter's, immediately following the regular offering.

## Annual Caroling Event for ALL

On Friday evening, December 2, all members, family, and friends are welcome to go a-caroling! This annual event brings some Christmas happiness and joy to those living in a Senior High Rise. It is a wonderful time as young and old together share the Christmas spirit with our neighbors.

We will gather at 6 PM for a light supper. We will then leave St. Peter's at 6:30 PM to begin our caroling. You may come at that time if you are not able to share supper with the group.

If you are coming for supper at 6 PM, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the Church Office by Sunday, November 27.

## Return Head Start Gifts by December 11

Each year we have the opportunity to share God's love with children in our neighborhood. Go to the Giving Tree in the Coffee Corner to get your

Christmas ornaments. Each gift for our Head Start children includes a hat, mittens or gloves (to fit a 4-year-old), and a \$2 donation toward the purchase of books in bulk. Place the unwrapped gifts in a plastic bag with the tag firmly attached to the outside.

## Ethnic Christmas Tree Exhibit

Everyone is invited to the Comfort Suites (at the corner of Third Street and Brodhead Avenue) at 2 PM on Sunday, November 27, for the annual Lighting of the Ethnic Christmas Trees, sponsored by the South Bethlehem Historical Society.

If you cannot attend this event, you may stop by the Comfort Suites from November 28 until January 1 to see the Display of Christmas Trees. Each tree is decorated by a different ethnic group. St. Peter's and University Parish of Holy Ghost Roman Catholic Church have decorated the "German" tree. Special thanks to Jane Merkel and Ruth Walter, who represented St. Peter's again this year. Be sure to see their handiwork during this holiday season.



## Synod Dedication

The new home for our Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod office is The Lutheran Center of Northeastern Pennsylvania on Grove Road -- near the airport. The offices of the Bishop and Synod Staff are located there, and the center is also used for worship, meetings, and community events. St. Peter's Congregation Council meeting took place there in October.

On Sunday, December 4, at 3 PM, everyone is invited to attend the dedication of the building to the Glory of God. The celebration will include a worship service, followed by fellowship and refreshments.

Mark your calendar and plan to be part of the joyful celebration!



## Lessons and Carols

St. Peter's will hold its annual service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 18, at the 8:15 and 11 AM worship services. Be sure to come at 8 AM or 10:45 AM for the special Prelude!

This music-filled Sunday will feature all of St. Peter's choirs, helping to welcome in the holiday season. This year's music features many of your favorite holiday carols, including "Good Christians All Rejoice," "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," and

"The First Noel," woven together in Gustav Holst's "Christmas Day." Youth Choir will be singing a lively version of "He Is Born," a popular French carol. Several newer, more contemporary pieces help round out the program. Joining us again this year will be flautist, Elaine Martin, who will accompany the Youth and Senior choirs, as well as being a featured performer during the service. We hope you can join us as we fill the sanctuary with music to welcome a Newborn King!



Congregation members who don't normally sing in a choir are welcome to join the Choir for our Lessons and Carols service. Rehearsals will be held on Sundays November 27, December 4, and December 11, at 9:30 AM in the Choir Room for those not able to attend the regular Wednesday evening rehearsals. All are welcome!

**Cancellations Due to the Weather**

If you are not sure if a St. Peter's worship service or event will take place, please call the Church Office and listen to the recorded message for an update. If there is no cancellation message, worship and events will go on as scheduled.

**Congregation Council Installation**

St. Peter's Congregation Council will be installed during the 9:30 AM worship service on Sunday, January 1. Please pray for these members as they commit to serve in leadership positions during 2012.

**SAVE THE DATE**

St. Peter's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 29, in the Social Room, immediately following the 9:30 AM worship service. The St. Peter's family gathers for snacks, discussion of St. Peter's ministries, and to see our annual "Year in Review" PowerPoint presentation. Be sure to mark your calendar!

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**St. Peter's Mission Statement**

Our mission is to be a Christ-centered worshipping family of faith witnessing to God's inclusive love for individuals, for our community, and for the world.



St. Peter's is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

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**Youth News**

We have been busy this fall and here are some highlights to celebrate!

- Delivered 98 pounds of food to Second Harvest Food Bank for the Backpack Buddies program and we're still collecting...
- Cleaned up the community garden plots in our "adopted" Martin Luther King, Jr., Park on Carlton Avenue in south Bethlehem.
- Began volunteering in October at Donegan Elementary School in the Wednesday after-school program from 4:30 to 5:30 PM. Four or five youth participate each week!
- Continued planning and fundraising for the 2012 Youth Gathering in New Orleans. The Holiday Gift Boutique carts are a great way to do some Christmas shopping and help our youth raise money for their expenses.

Stop by the Ministry Office to find out what's happening with our youth, and to join in the fun!



**Campus Ministry**

Join us for lunch at Johnny's Bagels on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, after the 11:00 AM worship service. And take along a "goodie" bag to sustain you through final exams. Bags will be available in the Upper Narthex beginning the first Sunday in December. Contact Kathy Thomforde in the Ministry Office for more details.

**Look Who's Having a Birthday**

Please remember, with notes and cards, the following homebound members who are celebrating their birthdays this month:

Rose Klotz – December 2

Anne Jacobs – December 16



**From the Parish Record**

**BAPTISM:**

Austin Michael Holmes - October 23, 2011

**WEDDING:**

Joshua L. Talley & Anna D. Benrud –  
October 22, 2011

## Sending Christmas Greetings

Listed below are the current known addresses for St. Peter's former Interns. Please remember them with cards and notes over the holidays.

**Rebecca Grate**  
4201 Main Street  
Columbia, SC 29203

**The Rev. Stacy Lauer-Scovanner & Mr. Ryan Scovanner**  
305 E. Yeasting  
Gibsonburg Ohio 43431

**The Rev. Elizabeth Nees & Mr. William English, Jr.**  
602 North 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
Apt F  
Millville, NJ 08332-2659

**The Rev. Drew and Mrs. Megan Goodson**  
1801 S. Elm Street  
Greenville, NC 27858

**The Rev. Jonathan Niketh**  
73 Stonewood Lane  
Lynn, MA 01904

**The Rev. Michael and Mrs. Kelly Jannett**  
2620 New Salem Highway  
Apt. J302  
Murfreesboro, TN 37128

**The Rev. Christine Bridge**  
706 Roosevelt Avenue  
Carteret, NJ 07008

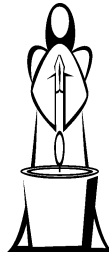
**The Rev. Michelle Kuhlman**  
115 Autumn Glen Drive  
Carrollton, GA 30117

**The Rev. Judy and Mr. Daniel Brennan**  
13005 Pine Hill Court  
Prospect, Kentucky 40059

**The Rev. Lori Kochanski and Mr. Scott Fackenthall**  
4514 S. Delaware Drive  
Easton, PA 18040

**The Rev. Julie Tillberg and Dr. John Pederson**  
114 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Mayville, ND 58257

**The Rev. Jennifer and Mr. Vance Thomas**  
11917 W. 66<sup>th</sup> Street  
Shawnee, KS 66216



## Congregation Council Nominees

The following people have been nominated to serve as members of St. Peter's Congregation Council:

*Standing for election to a first three-year term:*

**Deb Albors** has been a member of St. Peter's since 2008, when she joined with her husband Sammy and daughter Lizzy. At St. Peter's she serves as an usher and was a member of the 2011 VBS staff. Deb works at Aesculap Implant Systems in Center Valley in the Human Resources department. She feels that being more involved with her church family is a priority for her, and she is looking forward to the opportunity to get to know more people as she serves on the Council.

**Amy Faulch** was baptized at St. Peter's one year ago. She currently serves as a Sunday Church School teacher, on Altar Guild, and as a member of the Youth Council. She is married to Joseph. Amy works as a Solid Waste Specialist for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Amy loves to knit and is hoping to hear from St. Peter's members who are willing to get a knitting group started.

**Brett Hauber** joined the congregation in May when he and his partner Carl relocated to the Lehigh Valley. Brett transferred from Family of God Lutheran Church in Buckingham, PA, where he served in leadership on the Congregation Council. He chose to join St. Peter's because it is a Reconciling in Christ congregation and because he received such a warm welcome. Brett works as a Senior Economist for Health Preference Assessment at Research Triangle Institute in Research Triangle Park, NC, where his work involves understanding what matters to patients when they make medical decisions.

*Standing for reelection to a second three-year term:*

**George Kummer** has been a St. Peter's member since 1985, serving on Congregation Council and faithfully chairing St. Peter's Stewardship Committee. George has one grown son. George works at Wilsey Tool Company, where he builds medical implants. George enjoys walking on the towpath and restoring cars as a hobby.

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## January Courier Deadline

The deadline for the January Courier is Sunday, December 11. Please place your articles in the editor's mailbox or email them to her at [courier\\_editor@yahoo.com](mailto:courier_editor@yahoo.com).

## With Many Thanks!



## Are You Missing Something?

From Jim Walters, Director of Development for Meals on Wheels of Northampton County: "We would like to express our most sincere gratitude to our very kind friends of St. Peter's for your generous contribution in support of The Adopt A Route Program for the benefit of The Meal Subsidy Program at Meals on Wheels. We appreciate your thoughtful prayers and generous support of our mission to support the independent living of adults in need through the delivery of nutrition and community support services."

From Miller Keystone Blood Center to St. Peter's: "You registered 16 donors and collected 13 units which saved 39 lives, Awesome. Thank you for your continued support."

From Glenn Breidenbach to the St. Peter's Family: "I want to thank *all* of you, especially Liz Elterich, Barb Taylor and Pastor Roberts for all your prayers and encouragement. *Your prayers* brought positive healing thus far. After months of chemotherapy, my wife's test results were very encouraging and we sincerely believe your support proved to be successful. At this Thanksgiving time of year, we truly appreciate your concern. Thank God for the power of prayer!"

From Carol Garris to Pastor Roberts, Pastor Spieker, Associate in Ministry Barbara Taylor, and Parish Secretary Carol Frankenfield for their visits, calls, cards, prayers, and support during L. Eleanor Chase's illness and at the time of her death.

From Joyce Klotz to Pastor Roberts and the members of St. Peter's for cards, prayers, and notes.

To the crew who stemmed the tide that was flooding the Coffee Corner late on the Monday night of the snowstorm: to Pastor Roberts who bailed bucketsful of water as it poured out of the drinking fountain; to Barbara who found the main water shut-off; to Kenny Young for his quick action to make repairs; and to Carol, Ronnie, and Travis Frankenfield, who spent hours using shop vacs to get the two inches of water off the Coffee Corner floor and to get the water out of the carpet in the Ministry Office. If the problem hadn't been caught when it was, we would have had a severely damaged elevator and computer system.

From Connie Litrenta to her St. Peter's Family: "I was surprised to see Pat Little at my front door bringing me soup and rolls to help me recuperate. I shall keep the soup for a cold, snowy day to keep me warm. Thank you for your prayers and calls."

Occasionally we all leave items behind or forget to pick up coats hung on a hanger in another room. From time to time we may even leave our belongings behind when we leave St. Peter's after a worship service, committee meeting, or other activity. There are a significant number of items waiting to be reunited with their rightful owners in the Church Office. If you discover you are missing a piece of jewelry or an article of clothing, please come and claim your missing item(s). All things left unclaimed will be taken to the Thrift Shop on or about December 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Pastor's Discretionary Fund Needs Your Help!

Current economic conditions are challenging. Making ends meet is difficult enough without an illness, a lay off, an increase in heating costs, rent, or the need to replace a major appliance. Now, even more than usual, many are finding themselves without enough money to pay for their fuel or electric bill, for rent for a dry place to live, for clothing for their children, or to put a healthy meal on the table for their family. From time to time, Pastor Roberts is asked to assist individuals and families experiencing a wide range of difficulties. This fund has been heavily used over the past few months and has been nearly depleted. Contributions may be made by placing your donations in a pew envelope and marking it "Pastor's Fund." Won't you reach out to help a neighbor in need? You never know when it may be you who needs a little help making it through a tough time.



## Community Christmas Pageant

The 33<sup>rd</sup> annual live Bethlehem Christmas Pageant will take place at 2 PM on Saturday, December 10, and Sunday, December 11, at the band shell in the Bethlehem Rose Garden. The pageant tells the Christmas story through a narrator, costumed characters, and live animals. For more information, see the poster on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.



Mark your new 2012 calendars for Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. We will be celebrating the ministry of Pastor Roberts as she retires from her call as Senior Pastor of St. Peter's. There will be only one Worship Service at 9:30 AM, followed by a luncheon.

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**474 Vine Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015**  
**610-867-0519**

Office Hours: Monday through Friday  
 8 AM to NOON

FAX: 610-867-1249

E-mail: [church@stpetersbethlehem.org](mailto:church@stpetersbethlehem.org)  
[www.stpetersbethlehem.org](http://www.stpetersbethlehem.org)

**STAFF**

The Rev. Edith B. Roberts - Senior Pastor  
 The Rev. George F. Spieker - Visitation Pastor  
 Barbara-Anne G. Taylor - AIM for Parish Administration  
 Kathy G. Thomforde – Ministry Coordinator  
 Marisa H. Deshler - Organist  
 Wendy E. Borst - Vocal Choir Director  
 Anthony DeAngelis, Sr. - Bell Choir Director  
 Carol A. Frankenfield - Parish Secretary

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sunday: 8:15 & 11:00 AM Worship in Nave  
 9:30 AM Sunday Church School  
 6:30 PM Holy Communion in Chapel  
 Wednesday: 10:30 AM Holy Communion in Chapel  
 Child care is available in the Nursery on Sunday mornings for children up to five years of age.  
 Sharon Ann Burns – Courier Editor

**BETTER BUY THRIFT SHOP**

Stop in at *The Better Buy Thrift Shop* for your Christmas shopping during the month of December. The clothing is plentiful, and the selection is great. Shop for yourself or for family and friends. The shop is open from 10 AM to 3 PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and on Fridays from 10:30 AM to 1 PM. December 22 is the last day for shopping before the shop closes for the holidays. Stop in to see the beautiful, clean, inexpensive clothing that is available for men, women, and children. All proceeds from the shop benefit the programs of Southside Ministries.

From everyone at SSM – May God continue to bless you as you celebrate the birth of the Newborn King!

**Christmas Peace Pilgrimage**

The 52<sup>nd</sup> annual Christmas Peace Pilgrimage will take place on Saturday, December 10. The 10-mile trek from Nazareth to Bethlehem, PA, is symbolic of the journey of Mary and Joseph.

For more information call: Fran Dreisbach at 610-258-7313 or Lehigh County Conference of Churches, 534 Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18102 at 610-433-6421.



**Coupon Exchange**

St. Peter's Coupon Exchange is up and running. Stop by the Coffee Corner to drop off coupons you don't need and to take coupons you can use. Please note that recently expired coupons are welcome. They will be sent to "Coups for Troops," which will distribute them to military families stationed overseas, who can use them up to six months past their expiration dates.

**POINSETTIA PLANTS**

Poinsettia plants will again decorate the nave of St. Peter's this Christmas. Please order your plant(s) using the form below and include a donation of \$9.00 for each plant ordered. You may place your donation and order form in the offering plate or mail it to the Church Office. As in past years, a sufficient number of plants will be ordered to decorate the nave and additional monies will be donated to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Plants will be distributed to homebound members after Christmas worship. Order deadline: Sunday, December 11.

To honor: \_\_\_\_\_  
 To remember: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Given by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Enclosed is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

