



THE COURIER

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

FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Partners in Ministry,

As you have heard me say before, life is change. Retired Associate in Ministry Elizabeth Elterich is enjoying time with family and friends, including attending an ordination of one former Intern (Pastor Stacy Lauer-Scovanner) and the wedding of another former Intern (Pastor Elizabeth Nees). Former Intern Rebecca Grate is now visiting with hospital patients and their families almost every day, as a part of her one-year Residency Program in Clinical Pastoral Education at Palmetto Health Ministry in Columbia, South Carolina. And our new Ministry Coordinator Kathy Thomforde is busily overseeing Youth Ministry, including the details for the Fall Retreat and the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering, and Campus Ministry, as well as developing new ways for youth and adults to participate in Outreach ministries.

In the midst of this time of transition, I give thanks that many of St. Peter's members have made commitments to serve Jesus Christ through a variety of ministries, including our Sunday Church School, Youth Ministry, and Campus Ministry. Because of committed volunteers, these ministries will continue to flourish at St. Peter's. Change can often bring about new opportunities to live out our faith, both through the

Church and in the midst of our daily lives.

As we move from summer into the busyness of the fall, may you find new ways to live out your faith. Kathy Thomforde will be sharing opportunities for individuals to work with other members of the community to support neighbors in need. All adults can share God's love with our younger members by showing interest in their lives and witnessing to the Christian life. There are places in all the choirs for people who want to sing or play bells. The Property Committee can always use new members to help keep our buildings in good shape, both for present activities and for future generations. Willing workers will make the Covered Dish Dinner on October 2nd and the Organ Recital Reception on October 9th wonderful opportunities for members and visitors to share together. The opportunities are endless!

May you be open to the power of the Holy Spirit in your life. Blessings!

In Christ,

The Rev. Edith B. Roberts
Senior Pastor

September Worship Highlights

Sunday, September 4 12th Sunday after Pentecost
8:15 & 9:30 AM – Holy Communion in the Nave
6:30 PM – Holy Communion in the Chapel

Wednesday, September 7 10:30 AM – Holy Communion and Healing in the Chapel

Sunday, September 11 13th Sunday after Pentecost
Installation of Ministry Coordinator, Sunday Church School Staff, Youth Leaders, and Campus Ministry Coordinators
Presentation of Bibles to First Year Confirmands
8:15 & 11:00 AM – Holy Communion in the Nave
6:30 PM – Holy Communion in the Chapel



Wednesday, September 14 10:30 AM – Holy Communion in the Chapel

Sunday, September 18 14th Sunday after Pentecost
8:15 & 11:00 AM – Holy Communion in the Nave
6:30 PM – Holy Communion in the Chapel

Wednesday, September 22 10:30 AM – Holy Communion in the Chapel

Sunday, September 25 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Harvest Home Sunday
8:15 & 11:00 AM – Holy Communion in the Nave
6:30 PM – Holy Communion in the Chapel



Wednesday, September 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.

August Council Highlights

The following motions were approved:

- To activate the Nominating Committee.
- To appoint Sammy Albors to the Audit Committee.

Kathy's Korner

When my husband Chris and I moved to Bethlehem five years ago, we fell in love with St. Peter's during our first worship experience. We soon became members, and I have been fortunate to serve as an Assisting Minister on a regular basis, as well as the Chair of the Intern Support Committee for the past two years.

Over the past year or so, I have been feeling a strong and persistent call to serve others in a more tangible way. My life has been so very blessed, and I am very aware that many in our community are struggling in such a difficult economy. The Holy Spirit was truly at work in bringing Pastor Roberts and me together for a discussion that eventually resulted in the creation of a new "Ministry Coordinator" position at St. Peter's.

I understand my role as "Ministry Coordinator" to be one that inspires and facilitates volunteer service to those who need our help. I am delighted to be working with our youth and campus ministry programs as the staff resource. We have capable volunteer leaders in both of these programs, and my job will be to make sure that they have what they need for future events. As I met with the Youth Council, there is clearly great anticipation as we plan for the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans next July. In addition, we will be offering opportunities for fun and fellowship throughout the year for young people of all ages. At the same time, we will be focusing on ways that we can serve others. I will be in conversation with our youth and our campus ministry participants to discern where we can be of most service to our neighbors in need.

And for all who call St. Peter's their church home, regardless of age, I want to hear about **your** interests and capabilities for service in our community. Over the next few months, I will be working to identify volunteer opportunities in the area surrounding St. Peter's. Please spend some time in prayer to discover where your heart might be leading you with the time you have available to serve others. Look for me on Sunday mornings, or feel free to leave a message for me at the Church Office so that we can talk further about your interests. May God bless our ministry together.

Blessings!

Kathy Thomforde
Ministry Coordinator

SCHEDULE CHANGE

On Sunday, September 11, St. Peter's returns to the fall schedule of worship at 8:15 and 11 AM and 6:30 PM with Sunday Church School at 9:30 AM. Mark your calendar now to get the fall off to a good start!

Women of the ELCA

Morning Bible Study – All women are invited on Tuesdays, September 6 and 20, from 10 to 11:30 AM in the Trauger Room.

Bingo at Cedarbrook Annex is scheduled for November 1 at 6:30 PM. Help is needed to assist the guests, who look forward to our visit. Prizes are also needed. Please bring candy bars, crackers, small bags of pretzels or potato chips, men's aftershave, body powder, stamps, note cards, jewelry, perfume, etc. (please no playing cards) to the Church Office by Sunday, October 30. It is important that each resident gets at least one prize!

Mark Your Calendar:

October 2 - Covered Dish Dinner

October 16 – Thankoffering Sunday with a Soup and Bake Sale to benefit our missionaries

May 5 & 12, 2012 – Bach Ministry of Hospitality

Women of the ELCA Bible Study Fall Sessions

To the women of St. Peter's: If morning Bible study fits into your schedule, you are invited to come to St. Peter's on the first and third Tuesdays each month for the Women of the ELCA Bible study. All ages are welcome. The group will meet from 10 to 11:30 AM. NOTE: there is a change in the starting time, now that 'Miss' Liz is retired!

This year's study, written by The Rev. Patricia Lull, an ECLA pastor, focuses on the Gospel of Mark. The theme of the study is "to follow and to serve." The central Bible verse for the nine-month-study is: "Take heart; get up, [Jesus] is calling you." (Mark 10: 49b). The September study will focus on our spiritual journeys and the companions we meet along the way, those who walk with us and bless us.

Join the journey with other women. Friends are always welcome. If you have questions about the study, contact Elizabeth Elterich.



Christmas Ingathering

Every year the Lutheran congregations in Bethlehem work in cooperation to provide needed items for local shelters and ministries. Each congregation collects different items. Early in December, members of the congregations come together and assemble packets that are then distributed to the agencies.

St. Peter's item for the 2011 Ingathering is shaving cream. As you shop, watch for sales and purchase a can or two. Place your donations in the box outside the Church Office. It's an easy way to help others.

Celebration of Harvest Home

Harvest Home will be celebrated on Sunday, September 25, at the 8:15 AM and 11 AM worship services. The Nave will be decorated to display God's gifts of grapes and wheat, as we share in the Holy Meal. Two special ways to share in the celebration are to make a financial gift by using the Harvest Home envelope in your offering envelope box and to bring non-perishable food items for the Food Bank. Join the celebration as we thank God for all the good gifts we receive!



Enjoy a Ready-Made Meal and Support Our Missionaries

St. Peter's Women of the ELCA has supported ELCA missionaries for decades, using funds raised from the annual bazaar. Currently, St. Peter's supports missionaries in Argentina: David Wunsch and Kate Lawler and their children Emily and Matthew. You know their names because we pray for them every Sunday.

Because a bazaar will not be held this year, the women are conducting a Soup and Baked Goods Sale on Sunday, October 16, and Wednesday, October 19. All the proceeds will go to missionary support.

Pick up an order form from the Church Office, in the Coffee Corner, or from an usher. Return your completed form to the Church Office no later than October 5.

Please take this opportunity to order three varieties of delicious homemade soup, and plan to purchase baked goods for dessert at pick-up. You can have ready-made meals and support our missionaries at the same time!

Gifts to Share



The Church works best when all the members share their gifts and talents. Will you be part of a St. Peter's ministry? Many committees and groups are in the

process of reorganizing for the new program year. If you are interested in information on any St. Peter's activity, please call the Church Office. There are many ministries and many different skills are needed! How would you like to serve? Please call!

Sunday Church School

Calling people of all ages!

St. Peter's Sunday Church School will return on Sunday, September 11. Children in the Nursery through seventh grade will gather in the Chapel at 9:30 AM. Youth in the Confirmation Classes and older will gather in the Youth Room at 9:30 AM. Adults Learning Together will gather in the Trauger Room at 9:45 AM. Come to learn and grow in the faith!

Installations

Worship on Sunday morning, September 11, will include the installations of Ministry Coordinator, Sunday Church School teachers, Youth leaders, and Campus Ministry Coordinators. It is a time to celebrate and give thanks to God for those who have committed themselves to serve God through a variety of ministries.

You are invited.... Morning and Evening!

Bible Study provides a foundation for our faith. It's exciting to learn more about the Bible and how the teachings apply to our 21st century lives. There are two groups meeting this fall that are open to all adults. Both begin on Sunday, September 11.

Each Sunday morning, Pastor Roberts will lead Adults Learning Together. The group meets from 9:45 to 10:30 AM. Stop in the Coffee Corner, get your coffee, tea, or juice, and a snack, and settle into a comfy Trauger Room chair or sofa. The news of the world and issues on people's minds are discussed, and then Pastor leads the study of a Bible passage. This year the study will focus on the Book of Acts.

On Sunday evenings from 5:30 to 6:20 PM, Congregation Council Vice President Tom Sarver will lead a Bible study based on the book of Ephesians. Have an early dinner, and come to share and to learn in the Trauger Room. Following the study, plan to head to the Chapel for the weekly informal service of Holy Communion from 6:30 to 7 PM. (The study group will not meet on September 18.)

No special knowledge of theology or the Bible is needed to attend these study groups. All adults are welcome to come, to share, and to learn.

If you have never participated in a Bible Study group, make the commitment to give it a try. All are welcome to attend --- morning and evening --- to learn more about God's love working in our lives.

Crucifer Training

Students in the Confirmation program - 8th and 9th graders - will gather from 9:15 to 9:30 AM in the Nave on Sunday, September 11, for Crucifer training. Older students are also welcome to come to review!

Students in Confirmation

The Second Year Confirmation Class will have its first meeting on Saturday, September 10, from 1:30 to 4 PM. First and Second Year Confirmation Classes will begin meeting together on Sunday, September 11, at 9:30 AM. First Year Confirmation students will receive their Lutheran Study Bibles and Lutheran Handbooks during the Young Peoples' Sermon at 8:15 and 11 AM worship services on September 11th.

Meeting for Parents of Confirmands

Pastor Roberts will be meeting with the parents of students in First and Second Year Confirmation Classes on Sunday, September 11, at 9:30 AM in her study. At that time, the Confirmation expectations and schedules for 2011-12 will be reviewed.

Young people entering 8th grade are eligible to participate in the Confirmation Program at St. Peter's. If you have any questions about Confirmation, please be in touch with Pastor Roberts.

Youth & Young Adult Fall Retreat at Central Oak Heights

Mark your calendar for September 23-25 for the Youth & Young Adult Retreat at Central Oak Heights in New Milton, PA. This event is open to all Confirmation and senior high students, as well as young adults in the congregation.

Participants will spend time focusing on St. Peter's theme for the year: "Freed in Christ to Serve." This will be done through singing, games, Bible studies, crafts, meals, getting ice cream, and enjoying the bonfire.

The group will leave from St. Peter's parking lot on Friday evening at 5 PM and will return to St. Peter's Sunday afternoon. Registration forms and medical release forms will be available outside the Ministry Office (the

former Intern Office). Please be in touch with Kathy Thomforde if you have any questions!

"Something Sundays"

"Whatever Wednesdays" has a new name and a new meeting time! Instead of meeting weekly on Wednesday afternoons, this group will be meeting one Sunday afternoon a month for games, lunch, highs & lows, devotions, and to spend time with one another. The first of these meetings will be on Sunday, September 18, after the 11 AM worship service. This is open to all Confirmation and Post-Confirmation youth. Please sign up outside the Ministry Office (the former Intern Office)!



NEPS Youth World Hunger Lock-in!

This event was a HUGE success! Throughout the entire Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, 125 youth and adults gathered in 8 different locations on July 16-17. Each of the different sites participated in service activities, helping the hungry in their communities. All participants brought in canned food to donate to local food banks. St. Peter's participants helped the community by cleaning the kitchen at New Bethany Ministries and serving dinner at Safe Harbor in Easton.

The St. Peter's participants also held a "funeral service" for those who had died from hunger that Saturday. Those 16,000 individuals were mostly children, many of whom died too young to even be named.

Through sponsorships and hard work, this synod-wide lock-in raised over \$7,900 to support the ELCA World Hunger Appeal and made 250 Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. It was certainly a Spirit-filled weekend, focusing on sharing our abundance with those who go hungry daily. Thanks be to God for this event!



2012 ELCA Youth Gathering

Plans are well underway for the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering! This event will take place in New Orleans, Louisiana, from July 18-22, 2012. Youth entering 9th grade in the fall of 2011 through youth who will graduate from high school in spring of 2012 are eligible to go on this trip. Please contact Ministry Coordinator Kathy Thomforde by September 30 if you plan to be a part of this adventure.

On Sunday, October 9, at 2 PM, participants will be a part of a registration party! All youth and adults traveling to New Orleans should be at this event. Gather in the Ministry Office (the former Intern Office) to

register, and then celebrate with snacks in the Coffee Corner.

Stay tuned as more information about the Youth Gathering and fundraisers are announced throughout the year!

Entertainment Books are Coming Soon!

The 2012 Entertainment Books will be available in September for a donation of \$30. Proceeds will go toward expenses for the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. The books are filled with coupons for savings on restaurants, travel, shopping, services, and entertainment. This is an opportunity to support St. Peter's youth and to save while enjoying yourself!

Choir News

Sometimes it seems amazing just how fast a year goes by! At this time last year, I was St. Peter's new Vocal Choir Director, who was thrown in front of an eager group of singers to prepare an anthem for an Intern Farewell. It has been a wonderful year, and now we have prepared another anthem, as we bid farewell to Intern Rebecca Grate.

Junior and Senior Choir members will rehearse at 10:30 AM on Sunday, September 11, to sing at the 11 AM worship service that day. Regular choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 14th. I invite anyone with an interest in music to join us on Wednesday nights. We have a choir for all ages and abilities. Our rehearsals are a combination of learning, music-making, and fellowship, and we'd love to have you join us. A brief description of each choir is listed below:

Youth Choir (Grade 5-12) Newly renamed to reflect the new ages of this group, Youth Choir meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-6:45 PM. This group performs unison and two-part music and sings two to three times a month at the 8:15 AM service.

Cherub Choir (Age 4-4th Grade) Our beginner choir meets from 6:45-7:15 PM on Wednesday evenings. This group rehearses unison music to establish good singing habits. They sing about once a month during the 11:00 AM worship service.

Senior Choir members serve weekly as worship leaders during our 11:00 AM worship service. We sing a variety of styles, most in standard four-part harmony. While we welcome all voice parts to join this choir, we are especially in need of altos, so ladies, if you prefer to sing the lower notes, we need you! Senior Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-8:30 PM.

Faith Choir is a choir for the older members of our community who love to sing together. While there is

no set rehearsal schedule for this group, members sing in worship services approximately twice a year and provide special music for funeral services. This group will be singing during the 8:15 AM worship on Sunday, September 25th.

Finally, I'd like to thank all the musicians who shared their talents with us during our summer worship services. It has been a pleasure to experience your many gifts.

Wendy Borst
Vocal Choir Director



Companion Synod Celebration

On Sunday, October 2, we will have a special opportunity in our life together. At the 8:15 and 11 AM worship services, we will celebrate the Companion Synod relationships we share as members of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA. We will gather at Noon in the Social Room for a Covered Dish Dinner to enjoy delicious food and time for sharing. After the meal, Tori Geiger will share pictures and stories from her summer Companion Synod servant trip to Argentina. She spent two weeks living in Argentina doing service projects. Mark your calendar to save the date. Watch for details in Sunday bulletins and in the October edition of The Courier.



Companion Synod Trip

From July 18 to 30, 2011, St. Peter's member Tori Geiger was a member of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod's Argentina/Uruguay Companion Synod Youth Servant Event. Below is her "thank you" for the support she received from St. Peter's to help make this amazing experience a reality. Mark your calendar for October 2nd, when Tori will share some stories and pictures as a part of the Women of the ELCA Covered Dish Dinner, which will follow the 11 AM worship service.

Dear St. Peter's Members,

I wanted to thank everyone for helping and supporting me throughout my Argentina trip. It was an amazing experience, and I learned so much. Every day, twice a day, we shared a devotional time together in our chapel at ISEDET (Superior Evangelical Institute of Theological Studies, an ecumenical theological studies institute). We visited different congregations throughout Buenos Aires and learned about their diaconal work. On three of the days, I even stayed at an annual winter camp for kids, and we joined in with the fellowship, games, and food. The theme this year was "Technology with God." This was a great way for the Argentines and people from the

United States to find similarities about each other. We also talked about the good and bad ways technology can affect us. I had the opportunity to meet missionary Kate Lawler and her children Emily and Matthew after Sunday worship, too. This was an experience I will never forget.... Thanks, again. Blessings, Tori Geiger

Concert Series Coming to St. Peter's

Since my arrival eleven years ago as St. Peter's Organist, I have noticed that St. Peter's is a warm and welcoming congregation that has a strong commitment to music. Because of this, I have asked the Congregation Council to support my proposal for a Sunday afternoon concert series, and the Council has agreed to this new adventure.

The concert series will feature local musicians, who will be playing a variety of music: from classical and chamber music to jazz and band music. This Fall, there are two concerts planned. I will be opening the concert series with an organ recital on Sunday, October 9, at 3 PM. My recital will include pieces by composers from France, Germany, Hungary, and America. The second concert will be held on Sunday, November 13, at 3 PM. The Easton Area High School Chamber Singers will perform music from the Renaissance. Each concert will include a freewill offering to help support the entire concert series. Please save these dates, call your friends, and invite them to join you for an afternoon of music at St. Peter's. Spring concerts will be announced in a future Courier article.

Thank you for your support of our new adventure!

Marisa Deshler, Organist

College Addresses Needed!

Please call the Church Office at 610-867-0519 or e-mail Barbara_Taylor@stpetersbethlehem.org with new college mail and e-mail addresses. It is important to stay in touch with young people who are away from their church home! This will also help keep St. Peter's records up-to-date so mailings arrive where they should.

From the Parish Record

BAPTISM:

Sariah Jealyn Maria Cruz - July 24, 2011

Look Who's Having a Birthday

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

L. Eleanor Chase – September 7

Donald Romig – September 29



Ordination Announcement

On Wednesday evening, August 10, Pastor Roberts, Council President Sharon Ann Burns, Associate in Ministry Barbara Taylor, recently-retired Associate in Ministry Elizabeth Elterich, and the five members of the Hawk family gathered in the Nave of Zion Lutheran Church in Gibsonburg, Ohio, with about 200 other people. They were present for the Ordination Worship Service for St. Peter's 2009-2010 Intern Stacy Lauer-Scovanner. Pastor Roberts was honored to read one of the four "Charges" (Bible verses which provide direction for newly-ordained pastors) and to place the red stole on Pastor Stacy's shoulders. Because the stole was a gift from the people of St. Peter's, those who could not be present for the Ordination were there in spirit.

Pastor Stacy has been called to serve two small congregations in Toledo, Ohio -- Bethany Lutheran Church and Reformation Lutheran Church. You may send your best wishes to:



The Rev. Stacy Lauer-Scovanner
Reformation Lutheran Church
4535 Douglas Road
Toledo, OH 43613

Palm Sunday Eco-Palms

"Thank you for supporting the palm-harvesting communities in Guatemala and Mexico by using Eco-Palms for Palm Sunday," reads the letter that accompanied St. Peter's certificate from Lutheran World Relief. The certificate is posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.

On Palm Sunday, more than 815,000 Eco-Palms waved. 340,000 of those were in the hands of Lutherans across the USA. "Thank you for supporting a world in which every person and community can live in dignity and peace."

Letter from 'Miss' Liz

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now." Philipians 1:3-5

What an amazing celebration you provided for my retirement from St. Peter's! It was a day filled with long-lasting memories of ministries and experiences shared over our many years together. Each one of you has contributed to those memories and to that celebration. "THANK YOU" really seems inadequate for all that was said and done on that special day – June 26. The words of Paul to the church at Philippi seem to share what my heart feels. I do thank God for each of you being a part of my life in ministry. I pray for each of you as the gospel is shared everywhere we go.

Each part of the retirement celebration brings special memories: the joy and music of Worship, while sharing the Communion together as the family of God; the delicious meal shared together at the Gander Room; the daisies that adorned the tables and the yummy cakes; the gifts shared and the words spoken. All are treasured and stored in my heart forever. Richard, Sarah, James, Lillian, and Anna will long remember the day with their St. Peter's family, as well. It was a very special day for all of us to be together with you.

Retirement has been good for me. I have time for my flowers, my home, cooking, and stitching, all things that I enjoy. There is also plenty of time for reflecting and praying, so I think of you all each day.

May God continue to bless and guide each of you each day. Know that I do thank my God every time I remember you and thank God for the part you have played in our lives and ministry together. Thanks be to God for all the wonders God has provided!

Thank you to each of you!

Blessings,
'Miss' Liz



With Many Thanks!

From Terry & Ben Fistner to Pastor Roberts and their St. Peter's friends: "We send many thanks for your loving acknowledgements of Ben's graduation from High School. He is blessed to have become part of our St. Peter's family!"

From Ben Fistner to the St. Peter's Family: "Thank you so much for recognizing my graduation and for the gift card."

From Pat Little to everyone for their love and care during her recent hospitalization and to Pastor Spieker and Intern Rebecca for their visits.

From Tim & Sister Ramona Daily for the kind expressions of concern upon the death of Tim's sister, Jennifer.

From Tami, Rob, Brianna, Dallas, & Austin Holmes for visits to the hospital upon Austin's birth and "for the meals that you took the time to make for us when we came home!"

From Lehigh Valley Outreach Depot: "for the flood buckets you recently gathered. They are already on their way to help needy families. God bless the members of your congregation for reaching out."

From The Jerusalem Singers: "for inviting us back to worship with you! We always receive such generous donations and such a warm welcome, and we look forward to seeing you each year!"



Wedding Announcement

Pastor Elizabeth Nees and William Engisch, Jr., were married at Advent Lutheran Church in Westminster, Colorado, on Saturday, August 20. Please hold them in prayer as they begin their life together.

Updating Our Homebound Members List

Should you or another member of St. Peter's be on the list to receive home Communion? Please call the Church Office to add a name to our list or for more information. The Pastors are beginning to plan for their fall visits, so it's a good time for you to call if a name needs to be added. This is an important way to keep our homebound members connected with the congregation.

October Courier Deadline

The deadline for the October Courier is Sunday, September 11. Please place your articles in the editor's mailbox or email them to her at courier_editor@yahoo.com.

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



Souper Day



The Annual New Bethany Ministries “Souper Day” is scheduled for Noon on Tuesday, October 18. “Souper Day” will again be held at the Candlelight to raise funds to support New Bethany Ministries. The cost is \$30, all of which goes to New Bethany because the Candlelight donates the food, and the servers donate their time! If you want to attend with the group from St. Peter’s, sign up on the chart on the bulletin board outside the Church Office no later than September 30. Your check for \$30 (made payable to “New Bethany Ministries”) needs to be at St. Peter’s Church Office by September 30 if you want to sit at the “St. Peter’s table.” New Bethany provides thousands of meals each year and serves as our area homeless shelter. Plan to register for “Souper Day” and share God’s love with our neighbors.

Pastor’s Discretionary Fund

As we head into the fall, there are those among us without enough money to pay for the fuel bill to heat their home, pay rent for a dry place to live, buy warm clothing for their children or place a warm meal on the table for their family. From time to time, Pastor Roberts is asked to assist individuals and families who are experiencing a wide variety of difficulties. Contributions may be made by placing your donation in a pew envelope and marking it “Pastor’s Fund.” Won’t you reach out to help a neighbor in need?

St. Peter’s Blood Drive

St. Peter’s Blood Drive is scheduled for Sunday, **November 13**, from 8 AM to Noon in the Social Room.

To volunteer to give the gift of life on November 13th, contact the Church Office.

Volleyball



St. Peter’s Volleyball Team will be forming in September. Games are played on Saturday mornings, beginning on September 10. If you are interested in joining the team, contact John Roberts.

Fountain Hill Cemetery Update

St. Peter’s is one of the congregations that provide faithful support toward the upkeep of Fountain Hill Cemetery. Each summer, we receive an update from the board. Over the past year, a new electrical line was installed, and dead trees were removed, and new trees were planted. In the near future, a monument made of two large gears from the Bethlehem Steel Company will be

set in place to remember those who worked in that industry. Throughout the year, board members and volunteers are keeping the cemetery looking good through maintenance and repairs.

A selected area is now available for Green Burials, remembering that we are “dust to dust, ashes to ashes.” There is no embalming, no concrete vault, no metal casket. Shrouds, reed baskets, or wooden boxes are used, and natural stones serve as grave markers. Wildflowers native to the area are planted, and paths allow visitors to move through the meadow. Fountain Hill is the first area cemetery to go green.

Keeping the grounds in good shape provides a peaceful place for family and friends to visit the graves of loved ones. To give a gift in support of the work at the cemetery, make a check out to St. Peter’s and write “Fountain Hill Cemetery” in the memo line.

Southside Ministries Thrift Shop Fall Hours

Regular hours begin September 1st at the Better Buy Thrift Shop, located at Cathedral Church of the Nativity. Stop by to shop or to drop off donations of clothing: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10 AM to 3 PM; and Fridays from 10:30 AM to 1 PM.

St. Peter’s Evangelical Lutheran Church
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610-867-0519

Office Hours: Monday through Friday
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 FAX: 610-867-1249

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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