



Vol. 54, No. 2



February 2008

# THE COURIER

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

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## FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Partners in Ministry,

On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Transfiguration Sunday, we come to the end of a very short Epiphany Season. The joyful celebration of Christmas seems but just yesterday, as we "Bury the Alleluia's" and begin to focus on ashes and sacrifice and death.

On Ash Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, we begin our Lenten pilgrimage. During this 40-day-season, we focus on our challenge to grow in faith, hope, and love as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

We remember Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness, the time between his baptism and the beginning of his ministry. For Jesus, this was a time of prayer and meditation. It was also a time of testing and temptation. As he tried to discern who he was and how he was to live out his ministry, he faced experiences that are similar to our experiences. Jesus knew what it means to have desires overshadow needs, to have aspirations undercut service, to have the allure of the world threaten one's relationship with God. In the end, he turned his back on temptation and refocused his life on the ministry for which he had been baptized.

As we journey through the 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter, may this be a time to rediscover who we are and whose we are. Life can sometimes feel like a wilderness, a place where we can get lost because of trials and temptations. But if we follow the example of Jesus, we can focus on our relationship with God and listen to God's direction for our lives. Through prayer and Bible Study, through worship and service, we can experience the wonder of living life as a disciple.

May you experience this Lenten Season as a gift, an opportunity to reconnect with the gift of Baptism and the promises of Confirmation. May you reflect on all that God has done for you. As we deepen our faith, we begin to capture a better understanding and appreciation of God's great love for us, making the wonder of Easter morning even more amazing.

Blessings in the journey!

In Christ,

The Rev. Edith B. Roberts  
Senior Pastor

### February Worship Highlights

Sunday, February 3



*Transfiguration of Our Lord*

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

Wednesday, February 6

*Ash Wednesday*

10:30 AM – Holy Communion with the  
Imposition of Ashes in the Nave  
7:30 PM – Holy Communion with the  
Imposition of Ashes in the Nave

Sunday, February 10



First Sunday in Lent

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

Wednesday, February 13

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

Sunday, February 17



Second Sunday in Lent

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

Wednesday, February 20

10:30 AM – Holy Communion in the Chapel

Sunday, February 24

Third Sunday in Lent

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

Wednesday, February 27

10:30 AM – Holy Communion in the Chapel



#### From Drew's Desk

*"How small our span of life, O God, our years from birth to death" (ELW #636).*

One summer I served as a chaplain at a large hospital in North Carolina. I remember a time when my Supervisor, a brilliant counselor and care-giver, was asked how he coped with his own mortality. "It's easy," he said with a chuckle, "I know everyone in this hospital is eventually going to die - except for me!"

In an essay called "Dying Well," author Amy Plantinga Pauw explores how Christians face death. How is it that some people are able to die with the assurance that death is not the final word? Pauw writes that it comes from "the weekly rhythm of Christian life, [as] the community gathers to celebrate the resurrection, God's final victory over death."

The Christian community speaks of both death AND life. In the prayers and festivals of the church, Christians remember the dead. By singing psalms and hymns, we regularly lament loved ones who have died. In our worship space, the cross stands as a visible sign of death and life. American society, Pauw says, "Often isolates death and dying from the flow of daily life, unlike almost every other society in history." In contrast, Christian practice acknowledges death and teaches us to die well.

In the season of Lent, the reality of death is given even greater attention. Many of us will receive the imposition of ashes and hear the words: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, Lent reminds us that our time on earth is limited. Pauw writes: "The specter of death destroys any illusion that we are in full control of our lives or that we are our own makers and keepers." In these forty days we move toward the cross of Christ and remember that we are dust.

Even as we face our individual mortality during Lent, we do so with others.

Together we ponder the mystery of Christ's crucifixion. In our weekly gatherings, we confess our sin and receive mercy. As a community, we care for the dying and for the grieving. In our worship, we pray in remembrance of those who have died, knowing that these prayers will continue, as Pauw says, "long after our own dear ones, or even we ourselves, are remembered by name."

In this season of Lent, I ask that God would teach us how to both live and to die well. In dying well, Christians "do things with and for one another in response to God's strong love," writes Pauw. We respond to our mortality with acts of love and mercy, just as Jesus did.

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me" (Psalm 23:4).



With peace,  
Drew Goodson  
Pastoral Intern

#### 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.

### January Council Highlights

#### A motion was approved to:

- Release 21 members from the active roll and place their names on the roll of those for whom the Church has continuing pastoral concern.
- Appoint Adam Kolman to serve on the Nominating Committee.
- Add an Intinctorium to the Designated Gifts List at an approximate cost of \$450.00.
- Accept the resignation of Maureen Potsko, with thanks for her service and commitment as co-chair of the Altar Guild, and with thanks for her willingness to continue to serve in the Altar Guild ministry.

## 4 The Courier

January Council Highlights (continued)

- Provide financial support for those accepted to go on the Companion Synod Trip to Saxony, Germany, with funds from the Ministry Fund.
- Appoint Lee Rayden and Sharon Ann Burns as St. Peter's Voting Members to the 2008 Synod Assembly to be held May 29-31.

### Building Use Request:

- A motion was approved to allow Zhao, Guliang and Du, Fengchen to hold a wedding reception in the Social Room on the afternoon of February 2.

## Women of the ELCA

*Morning Bible Study* - Tuesdays, February 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, from 9 to 10:30 AM. The group gathers in the Trauger Room. All women are welcome to come and share in the Bible Study and prayer support this group enjoys.

*Lutheran World Relief Blanket Making* – February 11 & 25 at 9 AM. Sewing skills are not needed to help with this project. We will show you the simple steps to help complete a blanket which will be used by our sisters and brothers across the globe.

*Cedarbrook Annex Bingo* – will be held on March 11, at 6:30 PM. Please bring prizes to the Church Office: perfume, candy bars, snacks, jewelry, etc. Helpers for the guests are also needed. Call Evelyn Smith to volunteer.

*Bach Ministry of Hospitality Weekends* – May 2 & 3 and May 9 & 10. Mark your calendar. Volunteers are needed to set-up, clean-up, cook, serve food, and greet our guests. Call Jeanette Gross to volunteer.



## February 2008 Lutheran Men in Mission

The next scheduled meeting of LMM is Saturday, February 16, at 8:30 AM in the Social Room. The group will enjoy a light breakfast and spend time in sharing and Bible study. All men are encouraged to attend.

### *No Offering Envelopes?*

Everything we have is a gift from God. We are blessed so that we can give back and be a blessing to others.

St. Peter's Stewardship Committee provides three options for giving our weekly offerings. *First*, each confirmed member may receive a box of offering envelopes. *Second*, those who don't use envelopes may receive a number. Offerings are placed in a plain envelope and marked with that number. Then Financial Secretary Dot Nagy records them. *Third*, a member may choose to sign up for the "Simply Giving" program, through which offerings are electronically transferred from the person's bank account into St. Peter's checking account and then recorded. This method is very convenient.

Remember – God gives us everything! Financial offerings are one of the ways we can show that we are grateful.



## Lent Begins

The season of Lent is a time when many faithful Christians search for ways to deepen their spirituality. The Lenten journey begins on Ash Wednesday, which, this year, is February 6. Worship is held in the Nave at 10:30 AM and 7:30 PM. Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes are included in both services.

Palms from Palm Sunday 2007 may be brought to the Church Office by Sunday, February 3. They will be burned for use on Ash Wednesday.

## 5 The Courier 21<sup>st</sup> Century Update



## February 2008 Turning Point

As of December 31, 2007, the Principal Balance of St. Peter's mortgage was \$110,169.65. A mortgage-burning celebration is in sight!

You can help pay off St. Peter's mortgage and honor or remember a loved one or a special event at the same time. Call the Parish Secretary and tell her you want to sponsor a share (\$100) or a half share (\$50) of Interest for a Day in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mortgage Fund. Let her know what Sunday you want to have your gift listed in the bulletin.

As we make special donations and continue our faithful monthly giving, our debt decreases. We look forward to the day when we can celebrate that we have completed our commitment!

### Reconciling in Christ (Speaker rescheduled)

As a part of his Internship Project, former Intern Jon Niketh developed a schedule of speakers to help St. Peter's members better understand what it means to be a Reconciling in Christ Congregation. On Sunday, February 10, one of St. Peter's newer members, the Rev. Dr. Christopher Thomforde, will speak at the 9:45 AM gathering of Adults Learning Together. Pastor Thomforde is an ELCA pastor who serves as President of Moravian College and Theological Seminary. He served previously as President of St. Olaf College, a Lutheran institution located in Northfield, Minnesota. Pastor Thomforde will share some of his experiences in higher education. All adults are invited to the Trauger Room on February 10 to share in this learning experience.

Pastor Thomforde was originally scheduled to speak at an ALT meeting in January but was called out of town on official college business.

Turning Point is the local shelter that helps people who are victims of domestic violence. It assists women and children in putting their lives back together. If you or someone you know is being abused in any way, call the Turning Point hotline at 610-437-3369. All calls are confidential. No one deserves to be hurt! Call today for immediate help.

### Weather Related Cancellations

If it is necessary to cancel worship or another St. Peter's event due to bad weather, the cancellation notice will be listed on St. Peter's voicemail. Call the Church Office and let the phone ring about ten times until the voicemail picks up. If you receive the normal message, there are no cancellations.

### Intern Project

As part of his Intern Project, Intern Drew Goodson has developed a survey for Christian men in the 35-and-older age group. During the month of February, he will distribute the surveys to men ages 35 and older in the congregation. By surveying this group of people, Drew hopes to explore why men choose to be involved in a Christian community such as St. Peter's. At present, many young men (ages 18-35) are questioning whether to be involved in a Christian congregation. The goal of Drew's Intern Project is to encourage men of different ages to support each other as Christian disciples. If you receive a survey, please help by sharing why you value being a part of St. Peter's. Stay tuned for more information on Drew's Project!



## 6 The Courier Energy Needs

Fuel costs are rising. Please prayerfully consider generous gifts in each of the “Energy Needs” envelopes in the offering envelopes, or use a pew envelope and mark it “energy needs.” It is important that each member consider a \$5 or \$10 gift in the energy envelope so we can keep St. Peter’s a warm place to worship.

### *Caring and Sharing in Lent*

Youth and adults brought in amazing amounts of food during Advent. “Thank you” to everyone who participated. Our friends at South Bethlehem Neighborhood Center said that they know when St. Peter’s calls and says they have food - “They have lots of food!”

During the weeks of Lent, we will again collect for the South Bethlehem Neighborhood Center. Please use this shopping list as you go to the grocery store during the weeks of Lent:

- February 10 - Paper Towels
- February 17 - Toilet Paper
- February 24 - Tissues
- March 2 - Paper Napkins
- March 9 - Bars of Soap
- March 16 - Soap for washing dishes

### *February Lunch Bunch*

It’s a Valentine celebration! You are invited to remain after worship on Wednesday, February 13, for a Lunch Bunch gathering. We will share a delicious Valentine dinner. After dinner, Pastor Roberts will do a “second showing” of her PowerPoint presentation: “2007 Year in Review.”



## February 2008 Ring, Ring, Ring

We’ve all done it – arrived in Church for a worship service only to find we’ve left our cell phone turned on. Most of us don’t give them a second thought until one starts to ring, sing, beep, or buzz. While we all appreciate the need for these modern conveniences, we also need to remember they have their time and place. Unfortunately, worship service is neither the time nor the place.

When we attend a play, a movie, or another performance, we find one of the very first things we hear is a reminder to turn off all electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, etc.) which may ring or go off and be a distraction to others around us.

Until God begins to call us on our cell phones, please be considerate of others and kindly make it a habit to turn off your phone so that you and others can hear God’s quiet whispers to us in worship services at St. Peter’s. Thank you!

### *Hold One Another in Prayer*

St. Peter’s is a praying congregation! At every worship service, the Prayers of the Church are lifted up. We thank God for our blessings and share our needs. Our Sunday morning prayers include the names of parishioners who will celebrate birthdays that week, one of the congregations of the Bethlehem/Easton Mission District, our Partner Congregation in Tanzania, and a variety of other needs and concerns.

You are invited to stop at the Prayer Book before each Sunday morning worship service to add your own joys and concerns. A new prayer list is started on the first Sunday of each month. At Sunday evening and Wednesday morning worship services, the Pastor will ask for names to be included in the prayers at the start of the service.

## 7 The Courier

### *Free in Christ to Care for the Neighbor: Lutheran Youth Talk about Human Sexuality*

The pastoral staff at St. Peter's wants to involve youth, parents, guardians, and friends in the discussion of human sexuality. On Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 12:30 PM, youth (grades 7-12) and their parents/guardians are invited to an initial meeting, which will include a light lunch. This meeting is an opportunity to outline what the study will cover. The Staff hopes parents and guardians will be involved throughout this conversation. The study will take place during three sessions:

Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, Session One  
Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, Session Two  
Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, Session Three

12:30 PM *Light Lunch*  
1:00 – 2:30 PM *Session & Devotion*

Please contact Elizabeth Elterich or Intern Drew Goodson with questions.

## SYMDANO

Synod Youth Ministry Day And Networking Opportunity is a great day for all youth, teachers, parents, young adults, and youth advisors to get together to celebrate what it means to live out our faith in our daily lives.

Youth in grades 3 through 12 are eligible to attend this year's SYMDANO event at Christ Lutheran Church in Conyngham on Saturday, April 19. The theme of the exciting day is "Fit for Jesus!" Registration forms will be handed out in Sunday Church School.

Pastor Roberts, Intern Drew, and 'Miss' Liz will be attending and hope that many youth and adults will keep that date open on their calendars to be a part of the group. Check the March Courier for the activities and departure time.

## February 2008



### The ELCA World Hunger Appeal

In 2007, St. Peter's members and friends contributed \$3,011.57 to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. In addition, the Congregation Council designated \$4,000 from a bequest tithe. That means that we were able to send \$7,011.57 to help feed hungry children and adults, locally, nationally, and around the world!

All of our gifts, combined with the gifts of Lutherans throughout the ELCA provide:

--Relief through food, clean water, medicine, shelter, and clothing for those in need.

--Help to aid people create better lives for themselves and their families through farming and small businesses.

--Advocacy by speaking to government agencies for those who cannot speak for themselves.

--Education to help people learn how to help our sisters and brothers in need.

To contribute, place your gift in an envelope and mark it "Hunger Appeal." Make checks payable to St. Peter's. Gifts may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the Church Office.

We are blessed to be blessings to others. Please hold our hungry neighbors in prayer and consider giving a gift every week. Let's work together to give even more gifts in 2008!

## *Hospital Admissions*

Due to privacy laws, hospitals no longer always call St. Peter's when one of our members is admitted. If you or another St. Peter's member is admitted to a hospital, please call the Church Office so our Pastors and Intern can stop by and check in!



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### 2008 Souper Bowl Sunday



Did you know that one in four people standing in a soup kitchen line is a child? **(Share Our Strength)**

For 18 years the *Souper Bowl of Caring* has been a youth-led movement to fight hunger and poverty. On Super Bowl Sunday, February 3, St. Peter's Youth will challenge the entire congregation to participate in this national event by contributing \$1 each, and a can of soup or other non-perishable food item. Such simple local actions can have a profound national impact. In 2007 alone, more than \$8 million in donations and non-perishable foods were collected across the United States.

The food collected through the *Souper Bowl of Caring* will benefit many residents of the Lehigh Valley since the items will go to the South Bethlehem Neighborhood Center Food Bank.

St. Peter's youth will decide how and where the offerings collected will be donated. In the past, monies have gone to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal and the SBNC Food Bank.

Let's make this year a Super *Souper Bowl of Caring* at St. Peter's. Look for the *Souper Bowl of Caring* soup tureen in the Narthex on February 3.

### First Communion Instruction



Young people who have been attending worship and Sunday Church School on a regular basis are eligible for First Communion Instruction. The Instruction will take place on Palm Sunday, March 16, 2008. At 12:30 PM, there will be a light lunch served, and then students and their parents will meet with Pastor Roberts, Intern Drew Goodson, and Associate in Ministry 'Miss' Liz for the Instruction time. The group will focus on Jesus' words at the

## February 2008

Last Supper, and the youth will have time to reflect on what Holy Communion means for their lives. The time together will conclude by 2 PM. The youth who receive this instruction will then be ready to receive their First Communion on Maundy Thursday, March 20, 2008.

If you feel your child/youth is ready for First Communion Instruction, please speak with Pastor Roberts by Sunday, March 2.



### Snow Tubing

On February 22, youth in grades 6 through 12, young adults, and Campus Ministry students are all welcome to come snow tubing at Blue Mountain. Youth in younger grades are welcome to come if accompanied by a parent/guardian. The release forms are available from 'Miss' Liz and at her office door.

It is always a fun evening of tubing and laughter. Be sure to bring a snack to share. Beverages will be provided. Cost per St. Peter's youth/adult is \$10.00. Cost per friend is \$17.00 each.

Adults willing to drive and/or go tubing are needed as well. Check in with 'Miss' Liz if you want to come along. 'Miss' Liz will sit in the Snack House watching over our snacks!

There is a sign-up sheet on 'Miss' Liz's office door. We need at least 15 people for the discount.

### "Leaping" Game Night

Come to St. Peter's to be with your church family on the "Extra Day of 2008!" February 29 is the day added to the calendar to help "catch up time" to match the solar calendar. So, *Leaping Games* will be planned!

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"Leaping" Game Night (continued)

Youth, their families, and friends from grades 1 through 6 are invited to a "Leaping" Game Night on Friday, February 29, from 6-8:30 PM. A light supper will be provided. Please bring a snack or dessert to share.

There will be "Leaping" games in the gym and quiet games in the Reception Area, so bring along board games or card games to share.

### Interested in Becoming a St. Peter's Member?

If you have been worshipping regularly at St. Peter's and are not yet a member of the congregation, you are invited to consider becoming a member. Please talk with Pastor Roberts if you feel called to take this step in your journey of faith. When she has a list of interested people, she will schedule a New Members gathering.

### Campus Ministry Resumes

The St. Peter's neighborhood livened up again in mid-January when the Lehigh students returned. It is good to have some renewed energy in the midst of the winter months.

St. Peter's Campus Ministry Coordinators, Maggie Berndt and Dan DeWitt, will again guide the planning of gatherings and events for Campus Ministry students during the Spring Semester. If you have suggestions for events, please be in touch with either coordinator.

Please check the Sunday worship bulletin and Campus Ministry emails for the dates and events in February. There will be lunches and other gatherings planned.

Many students are worshipping on Sundays. The hope is that they will come to

some Campus Ministry events and bring their friends.



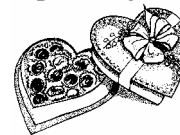
### Institute for Jewish Christian Understanding

The Institute for Jewish Christian Understanding is housed on the campus of Muhlenberg College in Allentown. Its purpose is "to enhance Jewish-Christian understanding by helping Christians understand Jews and Judaism more clearly, more deeply, and more appreciatively, and by helping Jews understand Christians and Christianity more clearly, more deeply, and more appreciatively" (*Purpose Statement for the Institute for Jewish Christian Understanding*). St. Peter's is one of many congregations which have provided financial support for this important ministry.

Christians have been given what the Apostle Paul calls the "message of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:19). How are we to make that message known in our lives? The Institute for Jewish Christian Understanding (IJCU) works to overcome misunderstanding and conflict between Jews and Christians. Through events and programs, the IJCU works to bring people of faith together.

The IJCU website

<http://www.muhlenberg.edu/cultural/ijcu/> lists activities in which anyone may participate! These include Luncheon Discussions, Youth Theatre, and day-long seminars. Pastor Roberts and Intern Drew Goodson have enjoyed being a part of the Clergy Colloquy. Stay tuned for how you can take part in upcoming events!



### From the Parish Record

#### WEDDING:

Julie Rawhouser and Brett Konjoian –  
December 29, 2007

### A Note from Our Partner Congregation

We recently received a letter from the new Pastor of our Partner Congregation, Madihani Lutheran Church, in Tanzania. Please keep in mind that English is not his first language. The following are excerpts from his letter:

*“Many greetings in Jesus Name to you and the brothers and sisters in St. Peter’s parish. On behalf of the Christians of Madihani I send you greetings. We do hope you are doing well.*

*Edward Maserela and the Christians of Madihani have told me about the partnership between your parish and Madihani. The Church Elders Committee advised me to write to you in order to keep in contact and strengthen our partnership. I do hope it will be so. May God bless our partnership.”*

*Pastor Sephat Nduvambo*



### Pastor’s Discretionary Fund

We’ve all been watching the price of oil rise and, with it, many other items as a consequence of those increased prices. Now that winter is here and we find ourselves turning up the thermostat to heat our homes, we need to keep in mind 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 experiencing difficulties of a wide variety. 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?

### Good Giving News

During 2007, those who went to [www.thehungersite.com](http://www.thehungersite.com) and clicked on all the attached sites helped to give the following:

- » 5.3 million cups of food for hungry people
- » mammograms for 7,151 women
- » health care for 657,619 children
- » 328,072 books for children
- » 42.7 million bowls of food for rescued animals
- » 10,155 acres of endangered rainforest land, preserved for the future of the planet.

We can make a positive difference in the world with just a few clicks.



### Mardi Gras

Because Lent arrives so early this year, our annual Mardi Gras celebration will be held after Easter. On Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, following the 11 AM worship service, everyone is invited to a dinner in the Social Room. The meal will be prepared and served by St. Peter’s Youth. This year the show’s theme is “The Olympics.” The show will begin at 1:30 PM in the Nave.

Mark your calendar now, invite family and friends, and come enjoy a delicious meal and some wonderful music. ALL St. Peter’s Youth will be singing during the show, as well as many of your other favorite voices!



### March Courier Deadline

The deadline for the March Courier is Sunday, February 10. Please place your articles in the editor’s mailbox or email them to her at [courier\\_editor@yahoo.com](mailto:courier_editor@yahoo.com).

*Look Who's Having a Birthday*

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

Lillian Weiss – February 18  
401 East State Street - Apt. 105  
Coopersburg, PA 18036

Irene Smith – February 28  
Country Meadows 4 Room 51  
4005 Green Pond Road  
Bethlehem, PA 18020



From Rose Klotz to the members of St. Peter's for the beautiful poinsettia, birthday cards and wishes sent her way, and to Pastor Roberts and Linda Zrinski for their visits which helps her feel close to the church family.

From Linda Muschlitz, on behalf of her mother Daisy Huhn, to Pastor Roberts, Pastor Spieker, and Intern Drew Goodson for pastoral visits and to the staff and congregation for cards, notes, prayers, and the Christmas poinsettia.

From Joyce Harmony and Roma Ziegler to St. Peter's members and staff for support and transportation after Joyce's injury, with special thanks for Carol Frankenfield and Rene Rawhouser.

From Lutheran Congregational Services to St. Peter's members for "the wonderful response to the 2007 Christmas Ingathering program," which benefited the following agencies: New Bethany Ministries, Turning Point, Third Street Alliance for Women and Children, Victory House, Safe Harbor of Easton, South Bethlehem Neighborhood Center, Community Services for Children (Headstart), ProJeCt of Easton, Spring Garden Child Care Center, and Care-New Pregnancy Centers.

From St. Peter's Staff to members and friends of the congregation for the variety of wonderful Christmas greetings.

**With Many Thanks!**

From Dorothy Mearhoff to Pastor Roberts, Pastor Spieker, and Pastoral Intern Andrew Goodson for their visits while she was in the hospital and to Harriett Tonkins for delivering the beautiful altar flowers, and for "everyone's prayers and concerns."

From Richard Hintz: "My dear friends, thank you all for a year's worth of prayers, solicitude, encouragement, hugs, visits, tokens of caring, altar flowers, sick jokes, bundles of notes, cards, letters, and much more."

From Art Faust to Pastor Roberts for her hospital visit, for prayers, cards, and telephone calls he received while in the hospital and recuperating at home. "Looking forward to getting back to St. Peter's. Thanks to all!"

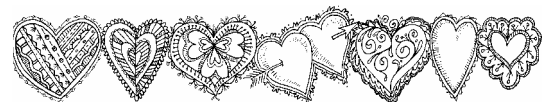
From Bill Heacock to "each and every member of St. Peter's who participated in Marion's funeral. Some friends remarked how beautiful the service was. Everything seemed to go without a hitch. Even the weather cooperated. It's hard to believe that we were married in the same church 57 years ago. I have many memories to reflect on. Again, thank you for being there."

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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.

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*American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days*

For 35 years, Daffodil Days have been a part of the American Cancer Society's fundraising efforts. The daffodil was selected since it is a sign of renewal and hope each spring. To the American Cancer Society, the daffodil is a representation of the hope that, one day, cancer will no longer be a life-threatening disease.

Donations from the sale of daffodils help to provide free programs and services for individuals fighting cancer, fund research, educate people about the importance of prevention and early detection, and advocate for health policies that benefit the community.

St. Peter's will again take part in the Daffodil Days program. So that we have enough flowers for all who wish them, you are encouraged to complete and return the form below to the Church Office no later than February 10. A limited number of flowers will be available for those who have not placed an order. Flowers will be available for pick-up on Sunday, March 30.

For more information on the services offered by the American Cancer Society, as a result of the dollars raised through Daffodil Days, please go to their website [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).



American Cancer Society's  
2008 Daffodil Days  
Order Form



The following items are available as part of this year's Daffodil Days event: bunches of 10 daffodils; etched green glass Vase of Hope with 10 daffodils; and a 10" Boyds Bear (named Bea R. Hope) along with 10 daffodils.

Orders must be received in the Church Office no later than **Sunday, February 10.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order the following item(s):

# \_\_\_\_\_ bunch(es) of 10 daffodils @ \$8 a bunch = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ Vase(s) of Hope @ \$15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ Bea R. Hope @ \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT OF ORDER = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed payment with my order.  I will pay for my order when I pick it up.  
Payment may be made by cash or check. Please make checks payable to St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Orders will be available for pick-up at St. Peter's on **Sunday, March 30.**



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February 2008

### St. Peter's Designated Gifts List

Intinctorium: Paten/Chalice used at Wednesday Worship	\$450.00
50 <u>Evangelical Lutheran Worship</u> Hymnals	each \$22.00
Furniture for Bride's Room:	
2 sofas	\$2,000.00
10 Arm Chairs for Reception Room and Social Room	each \$150.00
ADF	\$1,000.00

#### Additional Designated Giving Opportunities:

21 <sup>st</sup> Century Fund	Any Amount
Youth Gathering	Any Amount
Bear Creek Camperships	Any Amount

- NOTE:** 1. Prices are approximate.  
2. Where a range of prices is indicated, more specific information is available from the Church Office.  
3. A memorial Plaque may be purchased separately for mounting on Memorial Board in the Narthex. Approximate cost is \$20.00-\$30.00.  
4. Please call Designated Gifts Coordinator, Evelyn Smith with questions or for more information.

### Chris Kramer: Peace Corps Volunteer!

On Wednesday, January 9, 2008, Chris Kramer, a former St. Peter's Campus Ministry Coordinator, has officially begun serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in Namibia. His assignment is to teach computer skills to local school children.

Chris spent most of the fall living with a family in Namibia, where he was immersed in the language and the culture of the country. He also received instruction with the other Peace Corps volunteers who have been sent out to fulfill their service project years.

Chris has sent us several letters via email. You can find "hard copy" of those letters on the bulletin board outside the Church Office. He also has a blog on line

where you can read about his learning and experiences:

<http://chrismkramer.blogspot.com>

If you don't have computer access, see 'Miss' Liz or other staff persons and they can help you get access.

Please keep Chris in your prayers as he lives out his ministry, helping young people in Namibia prepare for their future.



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

CARELINE: A Spiritual Message: 610-868-  
CARE

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday  
8 AM to 3 PM

Friday: 9 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

Elizabeth McKee Elterich - AIM for  
Education/Youth/Outreach

Barbara-Anne G. Taylor - AIM for Parish Administration

Andrew D. Goodson - Intern Pastor

Jean E. Ocker - Director of Music

Marisa H. Deshler - Organist

Anthony DeAngelis, Sr. - Bell Director

Linda M. Zrinski - 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

