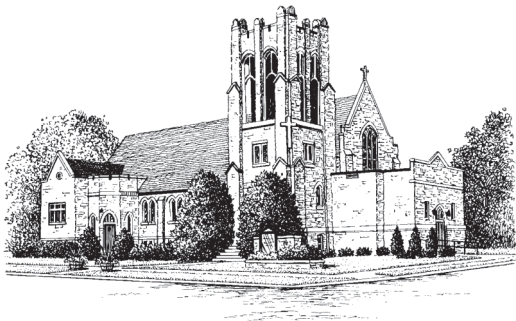




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ST. PETER'S NET

JANUARY 2019

12 Days of Christmas Into the New Year

“What are the Twelve Days of Christmas? Many are confused about these holy-days. Many do not know what they are or when it begins and thus when it ends.

A good number of people think that the Twelve Days are the days leading up to Christmas. This may very well be the case for many TV and radio stations with their spots called “12 Days ‘til Christmas” (actually, it’s “12 Days ‘til the 25th,” most likely in an attempt to be more politically correct. As if people don’t know what’s happening on the 25th.) And further influenced with a popular expansion to “25 days of Christmas” to cover all of December.

But in fact, the Twelve Days of Christmas include Christmas Day and the eleven days following. So the Christmas season is really from the 25th of December to the 5th of January. The “holy-days” which became known as holidays include that of: St. Stephen (26th), St. John (27th), The Holy Innocents (28th), King David (29th), and the Circumcision and Name of Jesus (Jan. 1st, the 8th day.) And several other small observations each day as well.

These are the days leading up to the 6th of January—the day that Christians celebrate the festival of Epiphany. Epiphany is when we look at the coming of the Magi to

the young Holy Family. This is why many people hold the tradition of not including the Wise Men in their nativity scenes until the day of Epiphany.



This celebration of Epiphany as the revelation of Jesus to the gentiles is very important in terms of God’s mission to all people. As we look at the Wise Men -who were very much not Jewish- being led to the Christ child, we find comfort and joy in knowing that Jesus was sent to all people, not just to the Jews. Jesus was sent to and for us. We are included in God’s plan of salvation.

As you have time, read Isaiah 60. These verses speak of the light coming to Israel. Because of this light, the nations (those outside of Israel) are drawn to Jerusalem. The nations are drawn to the glory of Yahweh. He has included them. He has included you. And so we continue our celebration, well into the new year!

*Now let us come before Him,
With song and prayer
adore Him,
Who to our life hath given
All needed strength from heaven.*

*All this Thy hand bestoweth
Thou Life, whence
our life floweth.
To all Thy name confessing
Grant, Lord,
Thy New Year’s blessing!*

[Paul Gerhardt]

Pastor Amen

Music Ministry



You made it. Christmas has come and gone. You made it to all the parties, received your gifts, you celebrated festively. And now, it's January. It's cold. Days are short and nights are still long. All the Christmas decorations are going away. Once again, it's time to wait. For what do you wait? Spring? A birthday? Work projects? Easter?

Fortunately, the joy of Christmas—Christ coming to the world—does not end. We rejoice with the author of this month's hymn, Elisabeth Cruciger, about "The Only Son from Heaven."

This is our hymn of the day for the Second Sunday after Epiphany (January 20th) and can be found at LSB 402.

Elisabeth Cruciger, awaking early, looked out into the pre-dawn darkness that surrounded their Wittenberg home. Their two children were still asleep. Her husband Caspar would soon be up and off to his daily adventures with Martin Luther and Philip Melancthon.

There was a bright morning star aglow on the distant horizon. How could she help but recall that promise of ages "a star shall come out of Jacob" (Numbers 24:17). And she might have wondered if poor, foolish Balaam even suspected what those God-given words meant. But she knew well who was that Morning Star.

For the day had dawned and the morning star had risen in her heart when she was brought to saving faith in Jesus Christ, "the only Son from heaven." Had not her Savior Himself proclaimed it? "I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." (Revelation 22:16)

And so, Elisabeth Cruciger, born of German nobility, sat down to write of the One who had far greater nobility, God's-anointed King.

Here was the soon-forgotten wife and mother, who had been rescued from the nunnery of false belief and superstition, writing of how her heart had been awakened to know and love her Savior and Lord. Now she was able to stand in that saving gospel with faith unshaken.

Elisabeth Cruciger must have realized, in the midst of the early Reformation movement, that the world continued to move desperately and tragically against the Lord. For, the lives of the reformers and their families were threatened every day. And yet, each morning star would be a glimpse of heaven, a sure reminder and proof of the truth of Scripture—salvation in Jesus Christ alone—and the fullness of life in heaven.

Elisabeth's proclamation of the gospel, her hymn-testimony of faith, has continued to shine through the past five hundred years! Like a true and faithful child of God and disciple of the Lord, she let that light shine, not on herself, but only on the One whose light of salvation could never be confined and to which no star in the heavens could ever compare.

*The only Son from heaven, foretold by ancient seers.
By God the Father given, in human form appears.
No sphere His light confining,
no star so brightly shining
As He, our Morning Star.*

*O time of God appointed, O bright and holy morn!
He come, the king anointed, the Christ, the virgn-born,
Grim death to vanquish for us,
to open heaven before us
And bring us life again.*

*O Lord, our hearts awaken to know and love You more,
In faith to stand unshaken, in spirit to adore.
That we, through this world moving,
Each glimpse of heaven proving
May reap its fullness there.*

In His service,
Cantor Jeremy Zieroth

The table in the narthex has a good selection of cards available. Stop by and check it out! There is a wide range of cards to fit every occasion and all proceeds go to the *Christian Women's Council* to help support all their good works. There are also a number of craft items available for sale. You may leave your cash or check in the basket on the table.



Valentine and Easter items will begin to appear on the shelves in January. Yellow tag items will be 50% off January 1-15 and 75% off January 16-31.

The store is located at 201 Cottage Grove Rd (just off Monona Drive). The hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM and Saturday 9:00 AM – 5 PM. The phone number is 228-1223. Donations are welcome when the store is open.

We always need more volunteers. Members of St. Peter's work on the first Friday (January 4th) and the third Wednesday (January 16th). Hours and days of work are flexible. Please call Elaine Podoll (635-8012) if you have any questions or would like to become part of the *House of Thrift* team.

Thank you!



Stand Firm and Ready

During this month of January (the 26th) the Church remembers St. Titus; Pastor and Confessor of the faith. Therefore, let's explore Paul's letter to this faithful Pastor.

Paul had worked with Titus, his prudent Gentile companion, who had rendered Paul valuable services at a time when the relationship between the Church at Corinth and Paul had been strained to near depletion (2 Cor. 2:13, 7:6, 8:6, and 12:18). Afterward, in 68 A.D. (not long before Paul was executed for ministering the Gospel) Paul wrote to Titus as he took on the difficult assignment of preaching and teaching on the Mediterranean island of Crete. Paul writes encouraging him to combat a threatening heresy and advises him in his task of edifying the congregation. Although this letter is addressed to Titus, we may conclude that the letter's intent is also for the ear of the congregation as well since Paul validates Titus's presence and work in Crete (3:15).

Curiously, this letter bears similarities to Paul's first letter to Timothy in occasion, purpose, and content. When comparing the letters, we see that in Timothy's case the church at Ephesus already has bishops, elders, and deacons in place since Timothy is instructed that a bishop must not be a recent convert (1 Tim. 3:6) drawing the conclusion that the Ephesian Church had been in existence for some time.

Comparing the two letters, Timothy was to *restore order* in established churches, whereas Titus was to *establish order* in a young church previously established since Paul instructs that the bishop ought to have children who are believers and free from debauchery (1:6). Thus, if Christian households existed with possibly unconverted children this may indicate a relatively new growth of Christianity in the region.

The climate for evangelism is made stormier by opponents of the Gospel who are competing for religious allegiance on the island. These opponents, Jewish rivals, are from the circumcised party (1:10), hold to Jewish myths (1:14), stress legal observance (1:14), and claim to know God (1:16). To make matters worse, Paul also indicates that the opponents are seemingly successful in leading some astray (1:11). The developing and fragile Christian church, therefore, is being threatened by the ability of rival Jewish false teachings to persuade the newly converted that they have a more attractive vision for God's people.

The survival of the infant church is at stake! Titus is instructed that the false teachers; "must be silenced!" (1:11) And, those being seduced by the opponents are to be "rebuked sharply" that they may be sound in the faith (1:13). Certainly, Titus himself is not left

out! Paul warns even him to avoid controversies and quarrels over the law (3:9). Since, if anyone in the community remains in error, that person is to be warned repeatedly, then cut off if error ensues (3:10).

Surely, a serious remedy for a tough situation which called for all Titus' courage, wisdom, and tact.

How does this letter apply today?

God alone saves from sin's condemnation, making us fit for His kingdom. As living, active members of God's Church we should aspire to know and understand His truth. Our lifestyle, relationships, and behavior must not discredit the Gospel. The Bar is set high, one that we cannot reach without God's help and mercy. But God is merciful and in sending out His Holy Spirit, He trains us for His service and He alone gives us hope for the future by His mercy and purifies us as His children. God's blessings in this New Year!

~~Vicar Kazmierski



Midweek Outing and All Families Event

Come on out and Tube with us!

The St. Peter's Midweek Youth are hosting a tubing fundraiser at Cascade Mountain!

Where: Cascade Mountain

When: January 23, 2019

Time: 4-9 pm

Cost: \$15 ages 7 and older; \$10 ages 6 and under

Midweek students will be taken immediately when all have arrived. All participants must complete a waiver form. (Available in office.)

We will then receive 50% of the tickets that evening! You must bring the flyer from the office, or Pastor can email it to you as required by Cascade Mountain. Thanks in advance for coming out and supporting our midweek and youth programs.

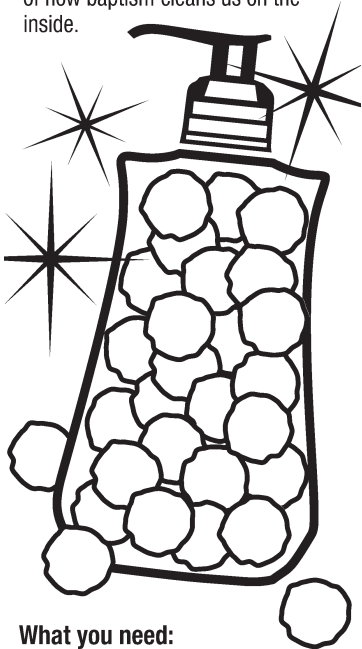
High School Youth

Summer Trip, June 24-27 to Nebraska.

See Pastor to sign up for our summer trip, Higher Things. Signups need to be in by Jan 27th. **Adults: We also need 1 female chaperone, please consider joining us for this great week!**

Washed Clean

Decorate a soap bottle as a reminder of how baptism cleans us on the inside.



What you need:

- Bottle of clear liquid hand soap
- Small craft pompoms (different colors)
- Wooden skewer

What you do:

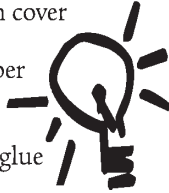
1. Remove the bottle label and unscrew the lid.
2. Using the skewer, push pompoms down into the soap one at a time.
3. Replace the lid and put the dispenser in a bathroom or kitchen.

LIGHT SWITCH COVER

Everyone who believes in God and lives for him is a child of light. Make this cover for your bedroom light switch to remind you to be a light for God.

What you need:

- An adult to help
- Light switch cover
- Screwdriver
- Colored paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Decoupage glue
- Paintbrush
- Craft knife



What you do:

1. Remove the screws from the cover.
2. On the paper, draw small images related to light and write out "Live as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8, NIV).
3. Cut out the drawings and verse. Make sure they'll fit on the cover.
4. Paint the cover with a coat of decoupage glue, and then immediately place the drawings and verse on the cover.
5. Paint over them with another coat of glue. Let it dry.
6. Turn the cover over and use a craft knife to cut out the opening for the light switch.
7. Using a screwdriver, place your new light switch cover on your wall.

St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool

WMELS Accredited

4-K Host Site for Poynette School District

May this newsletter find you happy and healthy as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

We are very excited for our program and the children have been practicing very hard. They are doing so well and we can't wait to share our message during the advent service.

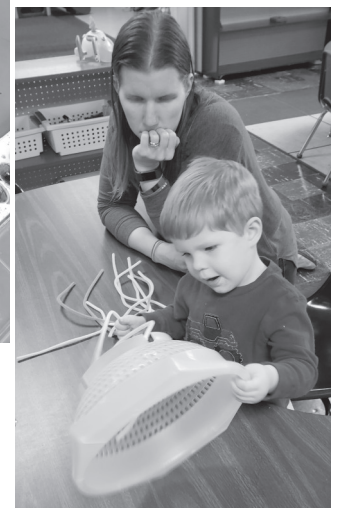
This month the children have been learning about gingerbread, winter and Christmas. We have had so much fun with our art projects this month, but the most fun they have had is playing in the dry ingredients for gingerbread cookies! They come away covered in flour and full of smiles.

We are also happy that the floor installation is coming up in a couple of weeks. We can not thank everyone enough for their donations and for participating in our fundraisers.

Our last fundraiser was on November 30th and it was such a fun date night. We had games for the kids, art activities, along with pizza and treats. We finished the night off in our pjs with a movie.

As the year ends we want to also reach out to thank all of you for your support and help throughout the year. The day-care is doing well and we believe that it truly is because of the work of the church members and the staff at the center working together throughout the year. We love being able to watch these children grow and learn each and every day. We are all very blessed.

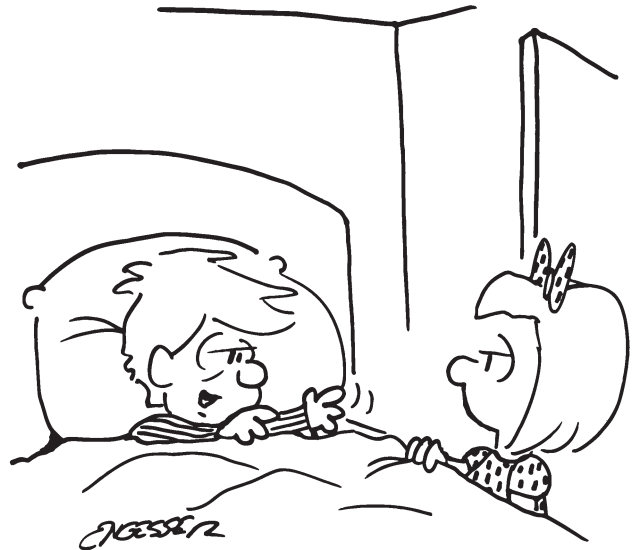
We pray that you may find peace and happiness in 2019.



DIVINE SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

<p>January 6/7 The Epiphany of Our Lord Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 24 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12</p>	<p>Sermon: A Change of Plans Order: <i>DSIII</i>, p. 184 Hymns: 386-395-399-400-397 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth Choir: Handbells</p>
<p>January 13/14 The Baptism of Our Lord Joshua 3:1-3, 7-8, 13-17 Psalm 85 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 Matthew 3:13-17</p>	<p>Sermon: Drowned in the Jordan Order: <i>Baptismal Remembrance</i> Hymns: 394-596-406-594-346-405 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth Choir: Adult Choir</p>
<p>January 20/21 2nd Sunday after Epiphany Amos 9:11-15 Psalm 111 Romans 12:6-16 John 2:1-11</p>	<p>Sermon: The Son; Jesus Order: <i>DSIII</i>, p. 184 Hymns: 408-402-859-636-394 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth Choir: Lower Grades Sunday School (8am)</p>
<p>January 27/28 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 2 Kings 5:1-15a Psalm 110:1-4 Romans 1:8-17 Matthew 8:1-13</p>	<p>Sermon: Humble Faith Order: <i>DSIII</i>, p. 184 Hymns: 398-401-849-616-664 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth Choir: Upper Grades Sunday School (8am)</p>

Random Acts of Cookie-ness



“Tell Mom I’ll stay home today and do Sunday school online.”



The midweek classes decorated cookie boxes, filled them with a dozen cookies and then traveled around Arlington to distribute them as a Christmas service project.



COUNCIL MINUTES - DECEMBER 11, 2018

Opening Devotion: Pastor Amen, reflection from Luke 2 on the meaning of the season and the church, that we exist for the proclamation as the angels and shepherds shared, to make known Jesus here for us all.

Secretaries Report: To approve minutes from November. Motion Steve Paskey, second Keith Podoll. Approved.

Financial Secretary and Treasurer: present by Bob Hagenow and Pastor answering a couple questions. Motion to approve, Paul Yamriska, second Phil Kruger, approved.

Board of Elders: Thanks to those who have served and assist. Slight discussion on consideration of future use and enhancement of the church endowment. Military Care cards are going out for Christmas this week.

Board of Trustees: Trees were put up. Lights in the church narthex and altar area replaced. Garbage disposal replaced. Basement flooring getting replaced over Christmas break.

Board of Christian Education: Child Care Center remains at full enrollment, considering a camera for use at the door. Preschool Christmas Wednesday Dec. 19th. Date Night fundraiser raised about \$500. Considering options for summer employment and future part-time help. Sunday School programs are upcoming for Christmas, all have come together nicely. Midweek classes continue with several activities during class. There is a tubing event and fundraiser being done for midweek on January 23rd. Youth helped with Christmas decorating and a pizza party with a Grinch Bible Study. There is a lock-in planned for Dec. 30th-31st. Tuesday Bible Study continues and is regularly meeting at church at 1pm. Friday men's study continues and it a joy to see new faces. Vicar has led the Advent Sunday Bible Study.

Pastor's Report: Thanks to all for sympathies at the death of my grandmother. October and November was quite eventful with 8 funerals scheduled in 7 weeks. Unfortunately also have seen an increase in hospitalizations of late as well. Thankful to all those that have given assistance at various times and ways. Advent and Christmas items are all set and looking forward to a great season, with the theme "What Child Is This?" and Christmas Eve making note of 200th anniversary of Silent Night. Vicar continues to study and learn a great deal, appreciate the congregation's support and learning experiences. He has increased independent visitation schedule as well as beginning in November and December increased preaching opportunities. Vicar continued to work closely with the 115th Fighter Wing (WI

ARNG) Family Readiness Group liaison and delivered 828 cookies (that St. Peter's purchased utilizing the Veteran's Day weekend collection) on November 30th for their Christmas Family Day that took place on Sunday, December 2nd. Additionally, St. Peter's will be serving those who serve by providing breakfast for Vicar and his wife's Army Reserve unit. Looking ahead as we approach the Christmas season, Vicar has been arranging, writing, and will be directing the Children's Christmas Eve Program as well as assembling and rehearsing an ensemble of student musicians.

Budget Committee presented some preliminary numbers and consideration, of significant note with discussion with Pastor and others there will be a decrease in the advertising for the upcoming year.

Nominating Committee has met with several needs and have discussed with many to have all positions filled. Thanks to those who serve and encourage others to serve as well.

Motion made by Greg Frank to set January Annual meeting for the 27th, seconded by Kim Kriewaldt, approved.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Concerning Funeral Luncheons

We want to thank everyone who diligently works to serve families at times of funerals for their lunches. There is considerable work that is done for these. Unfortunately, at this time there is no one directly in charge of this effort and without a lead person we cannot guarantee for all funerals a luncheon or arrangements. So, if someone would like to serve as this coordinator it will be appreciated. In the meantime, the facilities and setup of tables and chairs will still be done, but families may need to make their own food arrangements. If there is availability and coordination a luncheon will be offered, but this cannot be guaranteed for all. Thanks again to all who have served during these luncheons.



ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday, January 27th
1:00 p.m.

- ◆ ***Election of Officers & Board members***
- ◆ ***Adoption of the 2019 Budget***
- ◆ ***Other items of business***





**FINANCIAL REPORT
CURRENT EXPENSE FUND:**



Balance on November 30, 2018	\$9,516.20
Receipts for Dec (est.)	\$16,646.50
Expenses for Dec (est.)	(\$14,923.81)
Shortage/Overage	\$11,238.89

JANUARY
Elders

Jan 6	8:00 a.m.	Mike Manke & Kim Kriewaldt
	10:30 a.m.	Paul Yamriska & Cameron Gramse
Jan 7	6:30 p.m.	Bill Hageman
Jan 13	8:00 a.m.	Greg Frank & Cal Moll
	10:30 a.m.	Tom Crum
Jan 14	6:30 p.m.	_____
Jan 20	8:00 a.m.	Phil Kruger & Cameron Gramse
	10:30 a.m.	Tom Crum & Cal Moll
Jan 21	6:30 p.m.	Mike Manke
Jan 27	8:00 a.m.	Bill Hageman & Kim Kriewaldt
	10:30 a.m.	Greg Frank & Phil Kruger
Jan 28	6:30 p.m.	Paul Yamriska



A fresh start

Baptism is a blessing because it changes us and gives us hope.

Directions: Write the boxed letters in the squares below. Then unscramble those letters to form two words that complete the Bible verse and represent the gift of baptism.

We were therefore buried with him
through baptism into death in order that,
just as Christ was raised from the dead
through the glory of the Father,
we too may live a _____.

Romans 6:4, NIV

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: f i e l e w n ; new life

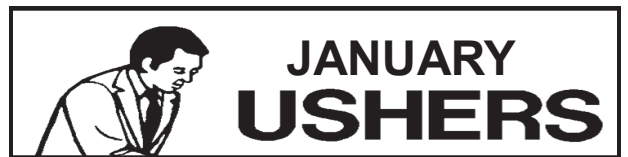
1/2	Cynthia Hemp	
1/7	Pamela Childs	
1/8	Judy Smith	
1/18	James Dobratz	
1/25	Joyce Herwig	



JANUARY

635-4825

Kelly Hageman



Jan 6 & 13

<i>Jeff Anderson, Chr.</i> (434-9764)	<i>Robert Kronberg, Chr.</i> (920-992-5272)
Dave & Wesley Sandstrom	Nathan Campbell
Austin Anderson	David Steinke
Craig & Owen Wendt	Vint Quamme
Glenn Puntney	Tom Crum
Riley & Cody Puntney	Vint Quamme, Jr
Todd, Justin, Hayden Taylor	Noah & Haydin Campbell
Logan Sandstrom	

Jan 20 & 27

<i>John Caldwell, Chr.</i> (635-4762)	<i>Herb Miller, Chr.</i> (635-4557)
Mike Manke	Paul Yamriska
Dale & Tucker Johnson	Andrew & Josh Yamriska
Mark & Fred Manke	Charles Hilgendorf
Tom Manke	Jim & William Plenty (Mondays)
Kraig See	

Acolytes

Jan 6	8:00	Piper Johnson
	10:30	Leona Osterloth
Jan 13	8:00	Nathan Tuschl
	10:30	Codi Woodward
Jan 20	8:00	Georgia Cuff
	10:30	Lucas Campbell
Jan 27	8:00	Carter Fait
	10:30	_____

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
					7:30 AM Men's Bible Class 9:00 AM Thrift Store	
Epiphany of Our Lord 6 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Bible Class/SS 10:30 AM Divine Service 1pm: Tree Undecorating	7 6:30 PM Divine Service	8 1:00 PM Ladies Bible Class 6:00 PM Bd of Ed 6:30 PM Council 7:30 PM Elders	9 4:00 PM Midweek 6:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Choir	10 	11 7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	12
Baptism of Our Lord 13 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Bible Class/SS 10:30 AM Divine Service	14 6:30 PM Divine Service	15 1:00 PM Ladies Bible Class	16 9:00 AM Thrift Store 4:00 PM Midweek 6:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Choir	17	18 7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	19
Epiphany 2 20 8:00 AM Divine Service 8:00 AM Lower Gr Sing 9:15 AM Bible Class/SS 10:30 AM Divine Service	21 6:30 PM Divine Service	22 1:00 PM Ladies Bible Class	23 4:00 PM Midweek 6:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Choir	24	25 7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	26
Epiphany 3 27 8:00 AM Divine Service 8:00 AM Upper Gr Sing 9:15 AM Bible Class/SS 10:30 AM Divine Service <i>1:00 PM Annual Voters' Meeting</i>	28 6:30 PM Divine Service	29 1:00 PM Ladies Bible Class	30	31		

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

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E-mail: stpeterluth@gmail.com

www.stpetersarlington.org