



ST. PETER'S

Lutheran Church, Chester Springs, PA



The Herald

April 2021

Volume 23 Issue 4

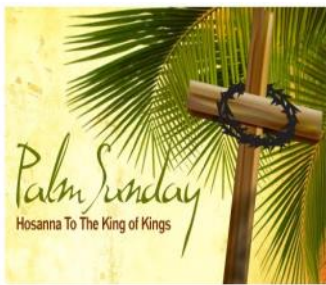
HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

In March, we started back having in-person worship. We hope to continue this through April. As we each get vaccinated, we will become more comfortable gathering in larger and larger numbers. We may still wear the masks, but hopefully we will get to the point where we can all sing God's praises. When we are all vaccinated, we may begin worshipping without masks.

Easter may not be the day for us to be able to sing Jesus' praises inside. We plan on having our Easter Sunrise service as usual in the picnic pavilion, where we can all sing out. We plan on having our regular Easter service inside but it, too, may be outside in the picnic pavilion, to allow for a larger attendance and, of course, singing. A final decision on this may depend upon the weather and also on the number of people who tell me that they are coming to the church for worship services.

So, pray for a continued decline in the spread of COVID-19, pray that vaccines will be fully distributed and pray for an early spring warming so that we will be comfortable wherever we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.

- Pastor Wesemann



Palm Sunday
March 28
10:00 am

(In person & Livestream
on Facebook)



Maundy Thursday
April 1
7:30 pm

(In person & Livestream
on Facebook)



Good Friday
April 2
7:30 pm

(In person & Livestream
on Facebook)



Easter Sunday
April 4

6:30 am (Outdoor)

10:30 am (Indoor or Out)

Yet To Be Determined

(In person & Livestream
on Facebook)

Please call Pastor or the church office if you plan on attending so we can plan ahead.

Holy Week begins this month. It is the central week of the Christian faith! On April 1, Maundy Thursday, we remember the Last Supper of our Lord. On that day, Jesus gave us the gift of Holy Communion, on that day Jesus was betrayed, on that day Jesus was denied, and on that day, Jesus began his walk of suffering leading to his execution. It is both a wonderful and painful day for us to remember, but it is so very important that we remember and celebrate it. That day was lived out by Jesus for you and for me; that day was for the good of all humanity. In Holy Communion, Jesus is present among us, offering us forgiveness and nourishing our faith.

April 2, Good Friday, doesn't seem very good when we think of the horrible events of that day. People, who had just days before proclaimed Jesus' praises, waving palms and shouting "Hosanna", were calling for his execution, his crucifixion. Jesus' disciples went into hiding. The leadership of the Temple of God handed Jesus over to the Roman governor, asking them to crucify Jesus. It didn't seem that Pilate wanted to execute Jesus, but the Temple authorities put on the pressure and after scourging Jesus, Pilate ordered Jesus executed. Jesus died on a cross for us, with only his mother, some women and disciples John and Thomas to offer him support. By the end of the day, the curtain of the Temple was torn in half, Jesus' body was taken down from the cross and laid in a tomb. Jesus died so that we may be saved.

Death could not hold Jesus. He is risen! Jesus is risen! On April 4, we begin our celebration of the resurrection of our Lord. The tomb was found to be empty and, while his disciples doubted his resurrection, Jesus settled their doubts by appearing to them. Funny thing about the resurrection, its impact on our faith is not as great as that of Good Friday, but Easter makes it easier to believe in the theology of Good Friday. Jesus was raised from the dead and was seen by people, even eating with his disciples. This helps us to believe that we, too, will be raised from the dead, restored with new and special bodies and will enjoy the salvation earned for us on Good Friday by Jesus.

Jesus didn't just go away after the day of his resurrection. He continued to appear to people and to teach his disciples for some time. The season of Easter will continue with us throughout April. We will continue the celebration of Jesus' resurrection because it is a celebration truly to be enjoyed.

Jesus Christ was risen for us.

CONTACT INFORMATION

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Ronald Wesemann	Pastor
Denise Rich	Parish Administrator
Gabriel Rebolla	Music Director
Jessica August	Nursery/SS Attendant
Cheryl Smola	Newsletter Editor

CHURCH COUNCIL 2021

John Young	President, Fellowship
Al Burk	Vice President, Finance
Joanna Sheffer	Secretary, Finance
Doris Sterner	Treasurer
Betty Ryberg	Chris. Education/Youth
Erin Johnson	Evangelism
Tom Grant	Music & Worship
Joe Cannizzaro	Outreach
Cole Young	Outreach
Betsy Burns	Property
Doug Beck	Stewardship

Office Hours:	T-TH, 10 am to 3 pm
Worship Service	Sunday, 10 am
Address	1239 Clover Mill Road Chester Springs, PA 19425
Phone:	610-933-9611
E-mail:	office@stpeterschestersprings.org
Website & Online Giving:	https://www.stpeterschestersprings.org/wordpress/
After Hours Emergency Contact:	
Pastor Wesemann: 610-933-4639	

PASTORAL ACTS

Baptism:

Emery Theresa Burnley 3/07/21

Received into Membership:

Kevin Kloss 3/14/21

Stuart Sullivan 3/14/21

Joe and Connie Fleming 3/21/21

Scattering Garden Funeral: (To be scheduled)

Esther Altmann

William Smith



Please pray not only for your loved ones but also for the entire congregation, its leaders and those listed below as they cope with life's challenges.

Loving and caring God,

We know that you are with us in the times when we are struggling, sick on either an emotional or physical level and in our hour of need when we no longer believe in ourselves. Help us to recognize the depth of your love during those times so we do not feel alone. Open our hearts to feel the enormity of your presence, to feel your deep and unconditional love and to recognize your guidance. We ask that you might ease our burdens as we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Dorothy Abrahamsen
Karil Abrahamsen
Glenn Allen
Midge Bates
Leroy Bauman
Bernadette Bender
Peggy Burnley
Stephanie Bilash
Al & Marilyn Burk
Michael Cesario
Adalyn Chicra
Calvin Clifford
Harry Cornog
Terri Crimi, Lewis Branin,
Nicholas & Christopher
Gary Derr
Kenneth Dobson
Sigi Eichinger
Daniel Frey
Wade Frey
Erin Johnson
Laurie Leonard
Linda Lilienfeld
Family of Betty McCardell
Atea McArel

Orville March
Peter & Jean Marchianco
Mike Mazoué
Mulcahy Family
Anthony Napolitano
Debbie and Rod O'Hara
Linda Patton
Sally Peirson
Mary Beth (Skurka) Prager
Kevin & Michelle Ralph
Dennis Reed
Lloyd & Mary Ann Seavers
Floyd Segner
Gary Segner
Dorothy Schmidt
Amanda Smith
Family of Bill Smith
Dorothea Streit
R. Walter Supplee
Mary Lou Tate
Bernd Warner
Fred Wesemann
Rita Wesler
Jo Ann Willenbrock
Irene Williams

Please keep the church informed about the continued need for prayer of those listed on the prayer list. You can submit names for the prayer list to the office. To initiate the prayer chain for immediate prayer needs, contact:

Pastor Wesemann 610-933-9611

Marilyn Burk 610-517-1147

BIBLE STUDY

We will meet for Bible Study via Zoom on Tuesday, April 27, at 1:30 pm. We will continue in the book of Mark with chapter 7, beginning at verse 24. All are invited to join.



The Zoom invitation will be sent out to all of our membership list, but it is not restricted to members and anyone can call in from their phone and participate.

If you do not receive an invitation and would like to attend, please email or call me and I will make sure that you get the necessary information.

- Pastor Wesemann



St. Mary's
Franciscan Shelter

In the scriptures it says that "not even a cup of cold water given in My Name will go unrewarded." The meals your congregation supplied to our shelter last week will merit many blessings for your parish family. The meals certainly were a blessing to our families.

When our residents return each night from work or looking for work, they feel blessed to have a hot meal ready when they arrive. Our children, too, benefit from the nutritious meals and family time together enjoying them. Our staff and volunteers are also delighted in what your good people shared with us.

We thank you most sincerely and we ask also that you keep the shelter in your prayers.

The meals were delicious!

Gratefully,
Sr. Bernadette Dougherty SSJ, Director
The Staff at St. Mary's and Guests

IT SEEMS I'M ALWAYS SAYING ...

It would be easy for us to forget about our outreach in a time when we ourselves are hardly leaving our own homes, but that was not the case in February. Twice each year, we cook and deliver meals to St. Mary's Shelter for a week each time. I want to thank all the people who made the meals and delivered them. We experienced problems this year with snow but we delivered the food, some early, but all of it, so that it could be served on time. St. Mary's Shelter expressed to me their gratitude when I delivered some of the meals and then sent us a letter of appreciation. Know that your efforts are indeed appreciated!

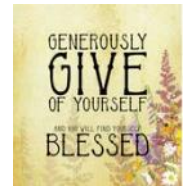


Once a year, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA meets in assembly. Our congregation is approved for three delegates. This year, I will represent St. Peter's as your pastor, Betsy Burns as the female delegate and Doug Beck as the male delegate. I want to thank Betsy and Doug for volunteering. The Synod Assembly will take place on April 24, via Zoom. Thank you.

- Pastor Wesemann

MONETARY GIVING

As a pastor, I find discussing people's financial giving extremely uncomfortable. My feeling is that members support the church because they have made a commitment to the church out of love and loyalty and wish to fulfill their commitments. It should not need to be discussed. And yet, it seems that a number of our members are not supporting St. Peter's financially and that this started for many of them when the pandemic began. I wonder if this is an "out of sight, out of mind" kind of thing.



Unfortunately, this has continued into 2021 as our congregation's regular giving for January and February is just under 60% of our budgeted number for those months. We have a \$7,000 deficit already for those two months. We have managed financially without using our investment principle, only because our expenses have been lower than budgeted. I am not asking the members and friends who have stepped up or who are giving more than in the past to give more. Rather, I am appealing to those members who have not been giving. The ministry of St. Peter's needs you. Last year, we benefited (\$20,000+) from a PPP loan offered by the federal government but this year we are not eligible to receive that money. Pray about your financial commitment to St. Peter's. If the ministry of St. Peter's is in your heart, resume your contributions. I encourage you to give some of the stimulus monies you have received if you have no need of it. Thank you.

- Pastor Wesemann

THRIVENT NEWS

In March of 2021, we received \$1,099 from Thrivent, \$433 of which was designated and the extra \$666 was due to an error on their part. We have received a total of \$2,168 in 2021. Thank you, Thrivent!

A thank you goes to Denise and Kerry Burnley and Cathy Wesemann for designating their Thrivent Choice dollars to St. Peter's.

Please remember to designate your Thrivent Choice dollars periodically. They are very much appreciated and needed. When you go to Thrivent's website, St. Peter's is listed as "St. Peter". If you have a hard time finding it, John Young is willing to help.

Thanks again for your support!

St. Peter's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for participating in the Thrivent Choice® program. We are honored to support your mission and the important work you do.

On March 8, 2021, you received an email indicating the amount of Thrivent Choice funds deposited into your organization's bank account. It has come to our attention that the March deposit was greater than the amount stated in the email. These additional funds were deposited in error on our part, and the email detailing your organization's deposit is what should have been deposited into your account.

We know the past year has been challenging for everyone and that the needs within our communities are greater than ever. Therefore, we would love for you to accept these additional funds as a further gesture of Thrivent's goodwill and appreciation of the great work you do. We know you will be able to put them to good use!

Thank you for all you do and have a great day!

NEWS FROM OUR HEALTH MINISTER, DORIS STERNER



“Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul.” - 3 John: 2

In this time of social distancing and avoidance of being indoors with others, polls have shown that many adults have put off seeing their doctors. It might be that you and/or your children have missed important immunizations over the past year. The CDC recently released the 2021 guidance for both adult and childhood vaccinations and immunizations. You can find this information here: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/>

There is plenty of information in the news about the COVID-19 vaccination. Many of us struggle to get an appointment for the vaccine. Others may be questioning if the vaccines are safe, what side effects can be expected or if a vaccination against COVID 19 is really necessary.

Michael E. Pichichero, MD is a physician scientist at Rochester General Hospital Research Institute and board certified in adult and pediatric allergy/immunology. On March 11, 2021, he writes about understanding the development of the vaccines for COVID 19. He states, “these vaccines were developed at “warp speed”—that doesn’t mean they were developed without all the same safety safeguards that the Food and Drug Administration requires. The reason it happened so fast is because the seriousness of the pandemic allowed us, as a community, to enroll the patients into the studies fast. In a matter of months, we had all the studies filled. In a normal circumstance, that might take 2 or 3 years. And all of the regulatory agencies—the National Institutes of Health, the FDA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—were ready to take the information and put a panel of specialists together and immediately review the data. No safety steps were missed.” Dr. Pichichero further states, “The novelty of these vaccines was that they could be made so quickly. Messenger RNA type of vaccines (Pfizer & Moderna) [which have been used for the last 10 years] can be made in a matter of days and then manufactured in a matter of 2 months. The DNA vaccines (Johnson & Johnson) has a similar timeline trajectory.”

The Mayo Clinic reports that in order to receive emergency use authorization, a biopharmaceutical manufacturer must have followed at least half of the study participants for at least two months after completing the vaccination series and the vaccine must be proven safe and effective in that population. In addition to the safety review by the FDA, the Advisory Committee on Immunization convened a panel of vaccine safety experts to independently evaluate the safety data from the clinical trial. Currently, more than 68 million people in the US and 244 million people worldwide have already received the messenger RNA vaccines. This gives us a lot of data that supports the safety and effectiveness of these vaccines.

- (Sources: CDC, Medscape, Mayo Clinic)

COLE YOUNG TO PERFORM

It’s almost springtime which means musical time! We are excited to say that Cole auditioned for his high school’s musical and has been given a role in both casts of the production of “Little Women!”

Due to COVID-19, this year’s musical will be filmed and live-streamed on Friday, April 9 and Saturday, April 10. If you would like to see “Little Women”, please use the link below to purchase a “ticket.”

Tickets are \$20 (general audience) and \$10 (student) **per device**. (So, a family can watch for \$20 on one device. It is possible to stream through a device using an HDMI cord to connect to a TV.) The show will only be available to view at the selected date and time, pausing and rewinding are not possible. Once you purchase your “ticket”, an email will be sent to you and you will only be able to use one device to open the link.

Friday, April 9 at 7:00 pm - Cole plays Mr. Laurence (bigger role and he is also a dancer)

Saturday, April 10 at 7:00 pm - Cole plays Braxton (he is also a dancer)

<https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/48575>

The musical club greatly thanks you for your purchase! Enjoy!

- John and Kristy Young

PROPERTY WORK DAY

On Saturday, April 17, the Property Ministry will sponsor both a Work Day and Adopt-a-Highway road clean-up. Rain date will be Saturday, April 24. First-time volunteers need to sign a PennDOT release form and watch a brief safety video.

For more information, please contact Bob Patton or Betsy Burns.



Adopt-A-Highway

Saturday, April 17, 2021

9:00 AM

Rain date: April 24, 2021

<i>April 2021</i>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	29	30	31	1 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service In person & Livestream All Fools' Day	2 7:30 pm Good Friday Worship Service In person & Livestream	3
4 Easter Sunday Resurrection of Our Lord 6:30 am Sunrise, pavilion 10:00 am Worship - Communion In Person & Livestream on Facebook	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 2nd Sunday of Easter 10:00 am Worship In Person & Livestream on Facebook	12	13	14	15	16	17 9:00 am Adopt-a-Highway & Property Work Day
18 3rd Sunday of Easter 10:00 am Worship - Communion In Person & Livestream on Facebook	19	20 6:00 pm Executive Committee	21 Admin. Professionals Day	22 Earth Day	23	24 9:00—8:00 pm Virtual Synod Assembly 9:00 am Thrivent Shred Event in Exton
25 4th Sunday of Easter 10:00 am Worship In Person & Livestream on Facebook	26	27 1:30 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Council	28	29	30 Arbor Day	1

April Celebrations

Birthdays

Karil Abrahamsen
Doug Beck
Paul Curtiss
Brad Lacey
Linda March
Arlene Reynolds
Carolyn Schlosser

Michael Twaddell
Hannah Weicheld
Paul Wesemann
Rev. Ron Wesemann
Don Wesler
Nevin Woodland

Anniversaries

Kerry & Denise Burnley
Frank & Diann Riepen
Kenneth & Joanna Sheffer



Coming Up in May

- 04 **National Teacher Day**
- 06 **National Day of Prayer**
- 09 **Mother's Day**
- 15 **Armed Forces Day**
- 17 **Shavuot**
- 18 6:00 pm Executive Committee Mtg.
- 25 1:30 pm Virtual Bible Study
- 25 6:30 pm Council Mtg.
- 31 **Memorial Day**



<i>April</i> 2021	<i>Assistant Schedule</i>				
	<i>4</i> <i>Easter Sunrise</i>	<i>4</i> <i>Easter Sunday</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>25</i>
Greeters	--	--	--	--	--
Ushers	--	--	--	--	--
Lector	Bob Patton	Kathy Hartman	Carmella Venezia	Carol Maholland	Bob Patton
Cantor	--	--	--	--	--
Communion Assistants	--	John Young	--	Kathy Hartman	--
Acolytes	--	Cole Young Kira Young	Cole Young	Carol Maholland	Bob Patton
Altar Flowers	Un-sponsored	Church Family	Joanna Sheffer	Walter Supplee	Un-sponsored
Bulletins	Un-sponsored	Un-sponsored	Walter Supplee	Un-sponsored	Un-sponsored
Altar Team	Carmella Venezia	Kira Young	Kira Young	Cathy Wesemann	Cathy Wesemann
Fellowship	--				
Counters	Betsy Burns & John Young				
Bread/Wine	Bread & Wine: Al & Marilyn Burk				
Paper Goods	Un-sponsored				

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

*THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF FINANCES
JANUARY THROUGH FEBRUARY, 2021:*

Total Income: \$16,331
 Total Expenses: \$24,095
 Total Surplus (Deficit): **(\$7,764)**

“Where there is love, there is life.
 Where there is life, there is hope.
 Where there is hope, there is faith.
 Where there is faith, miracles happen.
 Where there is peace, there is God.
 And when you have God, you have everything.”

- Source Unknown

ST. PETER'S MISSION is to fulfill our calling as the Body of Christ. We will be a worship center in the community. We will learn and teach the meaning of God's Word. We will share our Christian Faith with others. And we will support individuals in their time of personal need. As we accomplish these things, we will be faithful Stewards of God's Gifts.

OUR VISION is to be a center of activity and a welcoming congregation of worshipers growing in faith, while encouraging community outreach through various ministries.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE - BY BOB PATTON

ACROSS

1. City where the Vatican is located
5. Writing implement
11. An Aleutian island
12. Bland
13. Software used in lab testing
15. Hospital VIP
16. Resident of Jerusalem
19. Command to a dog
20. Is a customer of
21. Frozen precipitation
23. Racer Andreotti
25. Remove what 5-Across puts down
28. Group for people over 50 years old
30. Competes
31. Container for coffee
33. Sea of ____, where St. Peter fished
35. Actress Derek
36. Judge's hammer
37. Sect to which John the Baptist belonged
39. ____ Valley (snack food brand)
43. Kid's favorite time at school
44. Home to Adam and Eve

DOWN

1. Chemical symbol for radium
2. Overtime (abbr.)
3. ____ Everest
4. Area spanning two continents
5. Yanks (on)
6. A stoat in winter
7. Hoops organization (abbr.)
8. West coast state (abbr.)
9. Letters on the Cross
10. Church season beginning with Ash Wednesday
14. College degree for appliance makers
16. Ending for many elements
17. Agency that gives benefits to older citizens (abbr.)
18. Showed again, on TV
19. A low-lying stretch of land
22. Wilbur Wright's brother
24. Liver and kidney
26. Look and ____
27. Direction opposite WNW
29. Coats with asphalt
31. A ride sharing service
32. Flower with a thorny stem
34. French article
36. ____ Whiz
38. State where the US Civil War began (abbr.)
40. Talking horse Mr. ____
41. Opposite of She
42. Opposite of Out

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	
11					12						
			13	14					15		
16	17	18						19			
20					21		22				
23				24		25			26	27	
		28			29		30				
31	32			33		34					
35			36								
37		38						39	40	41	42
43								44			

The solution to this puzzle can be found in the next issue of The Herald.

Solution to the March puzzle shown below

A	R	A	R	A	T		A	R	K	
C	H	R	I	S	T		F	O	N	D
	O	M	N	I		F	L	O	U	R
		R	E	A	D	Y			C	A
	M	E	S		I	R		D	K	W
S	E	S		E	V	E		E	L	L
T	N	T		R	E		T	S	E	
O	T			A	S	H	E	S		
R	O	O	M	S		O	X	E	N	
M	R	N	A		A	L	A	R	M	S
	S	E	T		S	Y	S	T	E	M





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for further details.
Ads cost \$35 per quarter.

THE CHURCH IS ENTERING INTO ITS 250TH YEAR OF MINISTRY

As winter changed to spring, the thoughts of those who were determined to establish a church in the “Pikelands” (on the south side of French Creek) turned toward the questions of “Where?” and “How?” This would be no small feat. They were mostly farmers and money was not readily available, but they managed to find an acre and a quarter of land up on a hill that they could purchase from Michael King and Henry Hipple. The actual purchase took place on May 16, 1771. Currently, that land is the location of the cemetery which sits between St. Peter’s UCC Pikeland and St. Peter’s Lutheran. Our records, and those of Rev. Muhlenberg, describe the building which was eventually built as having the capacity to seat 500 people. The planning for such a structure and the actual building of St. Peter’s Lutheran Church did not happen in a short time span. It would take them a year and a half to build this church. I did not find any records describing the construction work of the church, but it is likely that they themselves built the building. After its dedication, this church was described by Rev. Muhlenberg as a log church.

The spring of 1771 would have been a time of planning and dreaming. They looked forward to not having to cross French Creek to worship the Lord, especially in the winter and after heavy rains.

- Pastor Wesemann



This is a handicap-accessible facility.