



**The *Fishnet* - March 2018**

**Sunday Worship Services  
8:00 am and 10:00 am**

**Holy Week Schedule**

**Maundy Thursday: March 29 – 7:00 pm**

**Good Friday: March 30 – 7:00 pm**

**Easter Sunday: April 1**

**Sunrise Service in cemetery: 6:30 am**

**Easter Morning Service in sanctuary: 10:00 am**





Dear Family in Christ,

The other Sunday, I had the joy of an over-abundance of food! We had treats after our annual meeting, we celebrated Bob Bergey's honorary quilt dedication at the Lutheran Community at Telford, and then one of our families had me over for a late lunch/early dinner. I tried to remind myself as the day unfolded, not to eat too much. I wanted to enjoy the dinner and I knew I would not if I was too full. Trying to cut back, pare down, 'fast' a bit, helps us to enjoy the feasts that are set before us. Do you hear your parents' echo: No dessert before dinner!!! :-)

Lent encourages us to cut back. To make room. Our lives are so full of busyness. Some of it is inevitable, but let's be honest. A lot of it is of our own making. We shop too much. We worry too much. Our society creates in us 'needs' which, relatively minor in nature, are blown WAY out of proportion. An example? Think about -- Deodorants. Until recently, and still in most parts of the world, human bodies produce odors that are natural. It took deodorant companies years and years and millions upon millions of dollars to convince us that "body odor" was embarrassing, unacceptable and bad. And they succeeded! Now, they take millions and millions of peoples' dollars because they created within most people a 'need' which really does not naturally exist, a need to suppress what is natural.

In Lent, we are asked to step back, calm down and reflect on our lives. To simplify. What is GOD asking of us? What do we really NEED to be happy? And if we let go of some of our invented needs and unrealistic expectations, what would replace them? Less TV and more family time? Less video games and more physical activities? Less fast food and more, simple natural foods? Lent is for this: reflection, self-challenge and redirection in the power of God's Holy Spirit.

We can't NOT know Easter is coming. We know a feast awaits us: The Feast is the victory of Jesus over sin, death and evil. Lent asks us to let the light of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, cast its shadow upon us so that when our Easter Celebration takes hold of us, there is plenty of room to receive, to feast, to celebrate what God has to give us.

For what do you hunger? What is the source of your need? How can you learn from your fasting, prayers and generous giving, to live out the Christ-life to God's glory and the good of your neighbors?

In Christ,

Pastor Joe

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## Lenten Services

### Wednesday evenings through Lent

Lenten Services are Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm and continue through Lent (there is no Wednesday night Service during Holy Week).

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## Confirmation Class

Confirmation class continues every other Sunday evening. Keep these young men and women in your prayers as they progress on their journey to full communion in the Church.

The March Confirmation classes are March 4 and March 18.



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## Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday Services will be held at 8:00 am and 10:00am on March 25. Palms will be offered, as always.

If you have an extra palm branch that morning or don't wish to keep yours, consider taking it to one of our Elders or to a shut-in you may know. They would greatly appreciate receiving it.

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## Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet March 27 at 12:00 noon at the A & N Diner in Sellersville (321 S. Main Street, Sellersville 18960). All are welcome to enjoy this Dutch treat fellowship.

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## Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday, March 29 at 7:00 pm – spoken Psalmody. Good Shepherd Episcopal is invited to share.

Good Friday, March 30 at 7:00 pm – Evening prayer Service at St. Peter's with our Christian neighbors from Good Shepherd, Hilltown sharing the Service with us.

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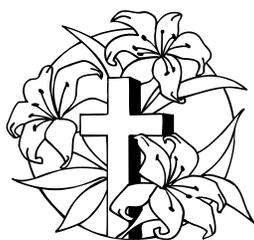
## Good Friday Program for children & youth Friday, March 30

Our children's Good Friday event will be held Friday, March 30th from 10:00am to 12:00 noon. Come hear the Easter story and make a craft to take home or give as a gift. See what you can find at our Easter egg hunt and join us for lunch afterward. All children are invited and are welcome to bring a friend. Please complete a registration form if you are coming so that we can plan appropriately. Thank you!



**Candy and toys** - we are looking for donations of candy and small toys to fill our Easter eggs for this year's egg hunt. Please leave all donations in the designated box in the Narthex. Thank you.

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## Easter Morning Services and breakfast Sunday, April 1 at 6:30 am and 10:00 am

Easter morning Sunrise Service will begin at 6:30 am in the cemetery, nearest the Parsonage.

The second Service will begin at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary with a brass ensemble to welcome the day.

Breakfast will be served between the two worship services on Easter Sunday. The menu will include scrambled eggs, toast, pancakes, meats, and potatoes. Please join us. The suggested offering is \$5.00. The food preparation and serving duties are fully staffed, but we are in need of some clean-up helpers. Please see Ken Shanks or call at 267-424-0202 if you can help. Thank you.

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## We continue to build Faith and Friendships!

Parents are encouraged to bring their children to the 10:00 am Sunday Worship. Susan Scherffel and other assistants continue to put together meaningful opportunities for our children and youth to spend special time together in Dorcas Hall during the regular Liturgy. They return to share Holy Communion with their families and our church family. Pray for this on-going ministry. "Encourage the children to come to me," says Jesus, "for to them belongs the Kingdom of God."

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## Lenten Food Drive

The youth of St. Peter's are sponsoring food collections for the FISH food pantry throughout the Lenten Season. Last year, St. Peter's donated over 500 pounds of food during Lent! Let's surpass that total this year.

Each week, we will concentrate on certain types of items, though any and all food pantry donations are appreciated. Please place your items in the collection box in the Narthex. The Lenten food drive collection will wrap up on Sunday, April 8th, though food donations for FISH can be brought to St. Peter's all year. Thank you for your support!

The weekly list is at the end of this newsletter so you may print and save it on your bulletin board or refrigerator.

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## Memorial Committee

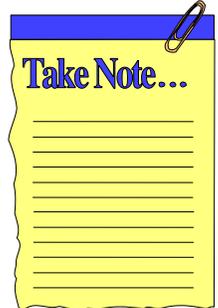
Members of the congregation have been very generous through bequests to St. Peters to be used to help others locally, nationally and world-wide. The Memorial Committee encourages committees to consider where these funds could be used to help and to request funds for specific purposes.

If you have any requests for the committee to consider, please give the request to one of the members of the committee (Bob Bair, Charlie Gehman or Judy Smith) before the next meeting. Forms are located in a folder outside of the church office door.

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### Save the Dates

Mar 4 – 6:00 pm	Confirmation Class
Mar 6 - 11:30 am	Worship & Music meeting
Mar 6 - 8am-2 pm	Quilting
Mar 7 - 1:00 pm	Keystone Passages
Mar 18 - 7:00 pm	Confirmation Class
Mar 19 – 7:00 pm	Council meeting
Mar 20 - 8am-2 pm	Quilting
March 25	Palm Sunday
Mar 27 – 12:00 noon	Lunch Bunch at the A&N Diner, Sellersville
Mar 29 - 7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday spoken Service
Mar 30 – 10am to 12pm	Good Friday Program: Craft time, story time, music, egg hunts and lunch
Mar 30 - 7:00 pm	Good Friday Service
April 1 – 6:30 am	Easter Sunrise Service in the cemetery
April 1 - 7:30-9:30 am	Breakfast in Dorcas Hall
April 1 – 10:00 am	Easter Service



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### Treasurer's Report

The January financial results are shown below. January has a built-in deficit as the insurance bill of \$6,300 is paid on January 1. However, the giving income has slipped, resulting in a larger deficit. Unless you are fortunate enough to have spent the winter in tropical locations, you are well aware that this has been a rough winter. Our winter costs including heating oil, and plowing and salting will run a bit higher than the previous year. All users of the building are asked to close the windows, turn off the lights, and not leave the heat on when leaving the building. Thank you for your continued support of St Peter's.

Ken Shanks  
Church Treasurer

Monthly results 1/1/2018 to 1/31/2018:

Actual Weekly Offering Income.....	\$8,725	Budget Weekly Offering Income.....	\$11,790
Actual Total Income.....	\$13,196	Budget Total Income.....	\$14,975
Actual Expense.....	\$19,213	Budget Expense.....	\$19,901
Actual Net Income.....	(-) \$6,017	Budget Net Income.....	(-) \$4,926

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### Red Cross Volunteer, anyone?

#### Save a life - Become a Red Cross Blood Donor Ambassador

Attend community blood drives and provide excellent and enthusiastic customer service to blood donors to make their donation experience fulfilling and set the stage for a long-term commitment to regular blood donations.

You'll enjoy flexible locations and times and can volunteer as often as your schedule permits. You'll meet blood donors and hear about why they give blood or how blood transfusions have touched their lives. It may change your own.

Specific duties include welcoming and supporting blood donors at blood drives in your community. You'll assist donors with the initial intake, escort them as necessary and ensure that their questions are answered. Donor Ambassadors must be at least 16 years old.

If you're interested in learning more, please call Susan at 484-403-4718 or email: [susan.kalkhuis-beam@redcross.org](mailto:susan.kalkhuis-beam@redcross.org)



## Pastor Joe signed at Wednesday Lent Service

Pastor Joe (left) had the honor of interpreting "Prayers Around the Cross," on the second Wednesday night of Lent, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in King of Prussia. Pastor Beth Lockard (right) was the preacher for this moving and beautiful service.



## Fiction Books Available on March 18

As part of the transition of the library to a chapel, the fiction books will be placed on tables in Dorcas Hall on Sunday, March 18. They will be available to the congregation. A donation may be placed in the container near the books. All monies will go toward the refurbishment of the room.

Any books left will be donated to Good Shepherd Episcopal for their book sale. Get your summer reading material now – beat the rush!!



Thank You

The final count for the winter coat drive was: 30 coats and 13 bags of scarves, gloves, and hats. Thank you, Doris and Shirley Texter for coordinating this annual drive. Thanks to all who contributed. Good job!!

## Church Chat



- Placing only paper in the blue recycle bin is appreciated by the Parish Administrator.
- Each of the Elders who have a folder on the table between the entrance doors, will have a monthly envelope in which will be bulletins, announcements, *Today's Readings*, and the current newsletter. If you're visiting them, please take the envelope. They love visits and they really enjoy reading what's going on at St. Peter's.
- Please note, at the end of this newsletter, the various events occurring during Lent at Good Shepherd Episcopal. We are cordially invited to attend any and all of the events.
- Have you seen on the national news, the comfort dogs provided by the Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry? They were, most recently, featured at the Florida school shooting and have provided comfort in disasters and crises to provide comfort to anyone affected including First Responders.
- Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends in 2018 are: March 16-18 at the Heritage Hotel Lancaster and September 14-16 at Spruce Lake Retreat in Canadensis (Poconos). \$100/couple includes 2 nights lodging, 5 meals for each person, and all supplies. For additional information, go to [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org).

## Congregational Staff

- **The Rev. Joseph Varsanyi, Sr. Pastor, MDiv, BCC**  
215-822-9075 (office)                      joevasl@aol.com  
**For Pastoral emergencies:                      215-850-6635**  
To arrange to visit Pastor or be visited by the pastor, email or call the church office.
- **Sue Fellman Jacob, Parish Administrator**                      215-822-9108  
**Office hours: Monday through Thursday, 8:30am to 2:30pm**                      stpeterslc@comcast.net
- **Norman Geist, Organist**
- **Bill Gottshall, Worship Ensemble Leader**
- **Susan Scherffel, Worship Ensemble Leader**
- **Jeff Thompson, Sexton**



Bob Bergey was presented this quilt by Quilts of Valor, on February 11, in honor of his service in the U.S. Army during the Korean War (from left: Joanne, Bob Bergey, Maryann Zepp).                      Photo by Maryann Zepp

## PRAYER CONCERNS – as of February 28, 2017



### God's Protection and Safety:

On all who drive buses, trains & planes. For all the service men & women especially:

**Seaman Abigail Gall, US Coast Guard**, daughter of Diane & Chris Gall

**CPL Griffin Parker, US Marine Corps**, grandson of Doris Hardy

**Private Nicholas Bukavich, US Marine Corps**, son of JoAnn Bukavich (Activities Ass't at the Laurels, Sellersville)

### God's Healing:

**Parishioners:** Joe Haenn, Bob Snider, Ray Johnson, Bob Bergey, Mary VanThyne, Bob Bair, Jim Ertel, Sharon Senigo, June Bair, Mary Ettore, Jeff Flagler, Sandie Driscoll, Betty Rohrs.

\* - *new addition*

### God's Healing:

#### Friends and family:

Arlene Leonard (Gene Gugger's sister), Steve Traynor (friend of Sandie Driscoll), Cheri McFarland (niece of John Snyder), Lena (friend of Pastor Joe), Kristy Simcox (friend of Deb Detweiler), Jim Hardy (son of Peg & Ed Hardy), Barbara Jones (Danielle Simpkins' mother), Helen VanArtsdalen (Sara Barton's aunt), Rev. June Bair, Rev. Dee Littleton, Al Palmer (friend of Dean Jerasa), Dave Lewis (Lori Lombardo's uncle), Noam (friend of Kim Jerasa), Mark Newbold (friend of Charles Rizzo), Rhelda Warriner (sister of Rita Bixler), Donna Cross (friend of Jim & Linda Ertel), Debbie Breithaupt (sister-in-law of June Bair), Mason Long and Randy (grandsons of Peg & Ed Hardy), Brandon Latham (friend of Scherffel family), Joe Lutz (coworker of Sharon Senigo), Ted and Jackie Frey (friends of Eleanor Peitzman), Chase Yarns (nephew of Tammy Daubert), Lori Groves (niece of Joan & Bob Snider), George Yarns (father of Tammy Daubert), Patricia Deitz (sister of Bob Bair), Harry Kieffer (Deb Detweiler's brother-in-law), Debra Scott (Sue Scherffel's cousin), Butch Trucksess (brother-in-law of Donna and Brian Blackburn), Jim Trucksess (nephew of Donna and Brian Blackburn), Michael Burgess (brother of Kim Jerasa), Joseph Hartner (brother-in-law of Michael Ettore, Sr.).

\* - *new addition [Names for healing will stay on the printed list for 1 month]*

### God's Comfort & Peace:

For our homebound members: **Elizabeth Witt** (Pine Run Community), **Ted Fickert** (Dock Woods), **Bonnie Lesh** (Souderton Mennonite Home), **Glenn Kramer** (LifeQuest, Q'town), **Joe Haenn**, **Blanche Wimmer** (Lutheran Community at Telford), **Ilse Mondry** (Rockhill Community), **Esther Saylor and Tillie Murray** (Hidden Meadows on the Ridge), **Edna Ney** (Phoebe Meadow Glen), **Doris Landis**, **Ted Hilmer** (Home).

### God's Grace for the Family & Friends who mourn the death of:

Gerald Kratz (father of Jan Drabyak), Juliane Tauscher (sister of Luise Scherffel), +Ernie Johnson, Julia Smith (niece of Julie Detweiler), Robert Meier (grandson of Ray Johnson & Monika Meier), Elsie Maynard (cousin of Eleanor Pietzman), Fred Warriner (brother-in-law of Rita Bixler), Eliot Pagan (father of Donna Blackburn), +Bob Constanzer, Pam Fullop (cousin of Pastor Joe), David Glick (grandson of Monika Meier), +Bill Gartner, Dorothy Ertel (aunt of Jim & Linda Ertel), +Cliff Nebelong, Robert Kerns (brother of Betty Jean Nemece), +Dorothy Barnhart, Ray Heffentrager (Lisa Bell's grandfather), Ruth Brenner (sister of Laurel Tackett), +Ruth Rodgers, +Florence Haenn, +Lil Hilmer,.

*[ +indicates a member of St. Peter's. Names will stay on the printed list for 1 year]*

March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 12n – AA	3
4 8 am & 10:00 am Worship Services  6pm-Confirmation class	5	6 8am – 2 pm Quilters 11:30 am – Worship & Music mtg	7 12n – AA 7:00 pm - Lent Service	8	9 12n – AA	10
11 9 am One Service 10 am - Congregational Mtg  1-3: 4H meeting	12	13	14 12n – AA 7:00 pm - Lent Service	15	16 12n – AA	17
18 8 am & 10:00 am Worship Services 2-4:4H meeting 6pm-Confirmation Class	19 7:00 pm – Council mtg	20 8am – 2 pm Quilters  Newsletter input due	21 12n – AA 7:00 pm – Lent Service	22	23 12n – AA	24
25 Palm Sunday 8 am & 10:00 am Worship Services	26 Newsletter will be emailed	27 12:00 noon – Lunch Bunch at A & N Diner, Sellersville	28 12n – AA	29 7 pm - Maundy Thursday Service	30 10-12 noon: Good Friday activities for youth 7 pm – Good Friday Service	31

## Monthly Assisting Ministers Calendar – March 2018

Date	Time	Ushers	Greeters	Acolyte	Crucifer	Scripture	Prayer	Server	Altar Guild	Counters
3/4/18	8:00 TEAM B	J & D Bell	B & J Detweiler	E Rebnegger	K Shanks	**L Bell	D Gall	L Bell	M Zepp & M Fickert	B & J Bair
	10:00 TEAM B	R Johnson & G Gerhart	D & D Fell	B Flagler	K Flagler	T Daubert	**T Daubert	L Lombardo		
3/11/18	9:00 TEAM C	W & C Fellman	P Hardy & S Davenport	K Shanks	J Snyder	**L Tackett	J Smith	Lisa Bell	D & S Texter	D & S Texter
	10:00 TEAM C	C Simpkins & G Gugger	D & S Texter	P Dowse	**L Lombardo	K Jerasa	K Jerasa	S Driscoll		
3/18/18	8:00 TEAM D	J & B Snider	J & D Snyder	A Lee	S Lee	**H Garrett	E Rebnegger	H Garrett	D & J Snyder	K Jerasa & N Driscoll
	10:00 TEAM D	R Johnson & G Gerhart	P Dowse & C Rizzo	**N Driscoll	S Butterwick	S Driscoll	S Driscoll	L Lombardo		
3/25/18	8:00 TEAM E	S & E Rebnegger	W & C Fellman	D Bell	J Bell	**P Tackett	D Gall	D Hardy	K Park & L Ertel	C Rizzo & P Dowse
Palm Sunday	10:00 TEAM E	C Simpkins & A Scherffel	R Johnson	S Texter	D Texter	C Evans	**C Evans	S Driscoll		
Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm		Volunteers needed	In all positions						
Good Friday	7:00 pm		Volunteers needed	In all positions						
4/1/18	6:30 -Sunrise Service	Volunteers needed							D Detweiler & P Abaza	B & J Bair
Easter	10:00 Service (Team F of 8 am Services)	J & D Snyder	B & J Detweiler	E Rebnegger	K Shanks	J Snider	J Smith	**D Gall		

**YOU STILL NEED TO CONTACT YOUR TEAM LEADER WITH CHANGES.**

**The yellow, highlighted names with double stars are team leaders.**

**Please arrive 10 minutes before the Service, so the Team Leader knows you are available.**

## **Good Shepherd Episcopal, Hilltown Special events during Lent**

A Bible study on Wednesday mornings will read through Luke-Acts in Lent and Eastertide using a program called The Good Book Club ([www.goodbookclub.org](http://www.goodbookclub.org)). The discussions take place immediately after our Wednesday morning Eucharist every Wednesday in Lent except March 14.

### **Friday, March 2**

#### **All Saints**

Based on the inspiring true story of salesman-turned-pastor Michael Spurlock, the tiny Episcopal church in Tennessee he was ordered to shut down, and a group of refugees from Southeast Asia. Jeopardizing his family's future by ignoring his superiors, Michael must choose between completing what he was assigned to do-close the church and sell the property-or listening to a still, small voice challenging the people of All Saints to risk it all and provide much-needed hope to their new community. Together, they risked everything to plant seeds for a future that might just save them all.

**\* Includes pizza at 6:30 pm; movie begins at 7.**

### **Friday, March 9**

#### **The Resurrection of Gavin Stone**

Gavin Stone, a washed-up former child star is forced to do community service at a local megachurch, pretends to be Christian to land the part of Jesus in their annual Passion Play, only to discover that the most important role of his life is far from Hollywood.

**\* Includes pizza at 6:30 pm; movie begins at 7.**

### **Friday, March 16**

#### **The Shack**

Based on a best-selling novel, The Shack takes us on a father's uplifting spiritual journey. After suffering a family tragedy, Mack Phillips spirals into a deep depression causing him to question his innermost beliefs. Facing a crisis of faith, he receives a mysterious letter urging him to an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Despite his doubts, Mack journeys to the shack and encounters an enigmatic trio of strangers led by a woman named Papa. Through this meeting, Mack finds important truths that will transform his understanding of his tragedy and change his life forever. Last year, a small but hardy group made through snow and ice to watch this movie in the theater; this year we bring it to Good Shepherd for those who missed it then.

**\* Includes pizza at 6:30 pm; movie begins at 7.**

### **Friday, March 23**

#### **Field Trip: I Can Only Imagine**

Although he found faith at a young age, life wasn't easy for MercyMe lead singer Bart Millard. He leaned into an active imagination and his love of music as escapes from a troubled home life. As he grew older, Bart turned to football in hopes of somehow connecting with his abusive father. But a career-ending injury-combined with the vision of a teacher who saw unlimited potential-set Bart on a musical pathway. Bart hits the road in an old, decrepit tour bus with his new band MercyMe-named for his grandmother's favorite expression. With the guidance of a grizzled music-industry insider, the band begins a journey none of them could ever have imagined. A gripping reminder of the power of forgiveness, the movie beautifully illustrates that no one is ever too far from God's love.

**\* Time and theater to be determined; this movie will be released on March 16.**

## FISH Food Pantry Themes For Lenten Food Drive

Week #	Date	Theme	Items
3	3/4	Basics	Flour, sugar, cooking oil, peanut butter, jelly, condiments
4	3/11	Beverages	Coffee, tea, hot chocolate, 100% fruit or vegetable juice
5	3/18	Paper products	Paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, diapers in size 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6
6	3/25	Personal Care	Shampoo, bath soap, laundry detergent, deodorant
7	4/1	Breakfast	Cold and hot cereals, pancake mix, pancake syrup