

The Fishnet

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Hilltown, PA
April 2025**



Although masks are not required, the use of masks during Services is up to the attendee.

In addition to "in-person" worship, Services are viewable live each Sunday morning on St. Peter's Facebook page, at St. Peter's website and on St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Hilltown, PA YouTube page after the Service.

Pastor's Message

As I was heading for the back door of our house, my daughter, only seven years old at the time, asked me where I was going. I told her that I was going to officiate at the funeral service for a member of our congregation and I mentioned the member's name. My daughter recognized the name. She looked up and innocently asked, "Will he be all right, Dad?" I was taken back by the

simplicity of my daughter's question but then I realized the beauty of it. "Yes," I replied, "he will be all right."

Easter this year is April 20. The Lenten season will come to a glorious end as we celebrate once again the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over what Martin Luther would call "sin, death, and the devil." Easter marks the Resurrection of our Lord! We will have made the journey with Jesus from his triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday (April 13) through the perplexity of Maundy Thursday (April 17) and the agony of Good Friday (April 18) to the shouts of joy on Easter Sunday.

Jesus' journey, in many respects, is our journey as we struggle with adversity. Our adversity may take many different forms. Are we happy with what is happening in the world? Does the weight of the crosses that we carry wear us out? The good news of Jesus' resurrection empowers us to say to all that threatens to overwhelm us: Stop! Christ is risen! While flowers bring beauty to our celebration of Jesus' resurrection, the message of Easter is something more. The mystery of the discarded stone and the empty tomb brings an unfailing and unwavering hope to our lives. Nothing can top that and, yes, when all is completed, we too will be all right.

Join Us as We Gather for Worship in April (In-person and Livestream)

Wednesdays, **April 2 & 9, 7:00 p.m.**, Services of Evening Prayer with Concluding Meditations on the Life and Legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Sunday, **April 6, 9:00 a.m.**, 5th Sunday in Lent, Holy Communion and Holy Baptism.

Sunday, **April 13, 9:00 a.m.**, Palm Sunday with the Blessing and Procession of Palms; Reading of the Passion according to Luke. (*Palm leaves will be available to all worshippers.*)

Thursday, **April 17, 7:00 p.m.**, Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion; Stripping of the Altar.

Friday, **April 18, 7:00 p.m.**, Good Friday Service of the Word; Reading of the Passion according to John; Procession of the Cross.

Sunday, **April 20, 7:00 a.m.**, Easter Sunrise Service in the Old Cemetery (weather permitting) and **10:00 a.m.**, Festive Easter Service of Holy Communion. (*Please note the change from the usual Sunday worship times.*)

Sunday, **April 27, 9:00 a.m.**, Second Sunday of Easter, Service of Holy Communion.

Additional Notes

We look forward to the **baptism of Reed Mayer Linde**, son of Aimee (Cowdery) and Austin Linde, on Sunday, April 6, at the 9:00 worship service.

The last session of our **Bonhoeffer study** will take place on Sunday, April 6, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., in the Apostles Room. Our topic will be *Taking A Stand: "Is This A Bonhoeffer Moment?" is the Wrong Question*. If you have not attended the previous sessions, you are still welcome to attend this one. Look for the announcement of future adult studies.

Pastor Raymond Miller

Upcoming Dates (please mark your calendar)

March 30	9:00 am	Service
March 31	7:00 pm	Worship & Music meeting
April 6	9:00 am	Service
April 6	10:30 am	Bonhoeffer study after Service
April 13	9:00 am	Palm Sunday Service
April 17	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
April 18	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service
April 20	7:00 am	Easter Sunday Sunrise Service
April 20	10:00 am	Easter Sunday Service

Funeral of Susan Johnson Smolin

Pastor Miller led the funeral service for Susan Johnson Smolin, daughter of Joan Johnson, on Saturday, March 15 at St. Peter's. Please keep Joan Johnson and Susan's husband, Frank and their family, her siblings and relatives in your prayers.

Join Us for an Adult Study on Bonhoeffer

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the martyrdom of German Lutheran pastor and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Though Bonhoeffer is often cited in sermons and articles, not many know a whole lot about his life and teachings. The four-session curriculum is entitled *Lessons from Dietrich Bonhoeffer in a House Divided and a World on Fire*.

The April 6 session will continue discussion on this extraordinary individual who defied the Nazis.

We invite you to join us at St. Peter's for coffee hour and then an exploration of Bonhoeffer's life and teachings. The study on April 6 will follow the worship service and we'll meet from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. See you then.

Holy Week Assisting Ministers needed

A signup sheet for Assisting Ministers needed for the Holy Week Services is on the bulletin board. The Parish Administrator doesn't know who will/can attend these Services, so no assignments have been made on this month's calendar. Please use the bulletin board signup sheet. Thank you!

Old directories

Old directories, along with several cookbooks, of St. Peter's are on the entrance table for you to take home and enjoy. If you look through them and then don't want to keep them, please shred the name and address section or place the directory in the Church Office mailbox in the hall for destruction. Enjoy tripping down memory lane!

Spring devotionals are now available

The April/May/June *Word in Season*, a wonderful daily devotional, is in the rack in the entranceway for you to take home and read each day.

Canned and dry goods for FISH

Canned and dry goods donations are in dire need by FISH. Food needs are really needed during the winter months. Please help our local food pantry. Every donation helps!

Used books now being accepted

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, just up the road at Hilltown Pike and Rte 152, is accepting books for their annual (very large and excellent) book sale. You may drop them off anytime at their outdoor table, under the protective roof.



The silly side of Pastor Miller – the Lutheran leprechaun (check those silly ears!!)



PRAYER CONCERNS as of March 30, 2025

(* = new addition to list)

God's Protection and Safety:

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

Petty Officer First Class Abigail L. Gall, US Coast Guard, daughter of Diane & Chris Gall
CAPT. Walker Gall, US Air Force, son of Diane & Chris Gall

God's Healing:

Parishioners: Ed Hardy, John Snyder, Leroy and Sheryl Gladfelter, Spencer Butterwick, Kim Jerasa, Dave Reice, Heather Jerasa, Eleanor Peitzman, June Bair, Reed Jerasa, Janet Owens, Don Jerasa, Jim Lynch, Mary Ettore.

God's Healing:

Friends and family:

Vicki Matott (Deb Detweiler friend), The Rev. John Heidgerd (Emmanuel Lutheran, Souderton), Charlotte Hacker (sister-in-law of Jerry & Joan Gerhart), Franz Grove (friend of Donna Blackburn), Jean Mood (friend of Janet Owens), Robyn Gulick (granddaughter of Janet Owens), Jim Fryling (Jerry & Joan Gerhart's cousin), Tom Korbas (Jerry & Joan Gerhart's brother-in-law), Marlon Cortolean (Deb Detweiler's friend), Emily Kuykendall (Bev Gottshall's daughter), Heidi Beason, Rochelle Fly, and Ruth Miller (friends of Rita Bixler), Shirley Treichler (Hope Garrett's sister), Rich Welsh and John Moll (Wally Simpkins' friends), Keith Lewis (Lori Lombardo's brother), Tessa Bair (June Bair's granddaughter), Butch Trucksess (Donna Blackburn's brother-in-law), Bill Treichler (Hope Garrett's brother), David Hallman (Rita Bixler's friend), Judy Johnson (Marv & Betty Rohrs' daughter), Tammy Owens (Janet Owens' daughter-in-law), Rhelda Warriner (Rita Bixler's sister), Lindsey Hollingswoth (Lori Groves' niece), Caitlin(Cate) Fishman (Lori Groves' relative), Jim Trucksess (Donna Blackburn's nephew), Ann Sellers (Pastor Miller's mother-in-law), David Yarns (Tammy Daubert brother), Kay Moyer (Hope Garrett's friend), Danni Tyrrel (Kim Jerasa's great-niece), Terri Lewis (Lori Lewis' cousin), Terri Jewett-Larkin (Patti Dowse's sister), Aidan Drakeley (Carol Barringer's grandson), Beverly Goheen (Maureen Simpkins' sister), George Yarns (Tammy Daubert's father), Pat Daubert (Rick Daubert's sister).

God's Comfort & Peace:

For our homebound members: **Joe Haenn** (Lutheran Community at Telford), **Esther Saylor and Tillie Murray** (Hidden Meadows on the Ridge), **Ethel Geist** (Arden Court, King of Prussia), **Catherine Truesdell** (Lansdale), **Mary Long** (Park Manor, Quakertown).

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

Susan Smolin (daughter of Joan Johnson), Gary Nemecek (father of Kelly Florentino, Katie Poust, and Kristine Martin), Paul Hershey (Chris Fellman's father), +Marie Slack, +Lorraine Leslie, Joseph Ferry, Richard Bair (June Bair brother-in-law), +Ron Beerkircher, Chase Yarns (Tammy Daubert's nephew), Amos Good (Joan & Jerry Gerhart's nephew); Helene Bell (Lou Bell's mother).

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

April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 9 am Worship Service 10:30 Bonhoeffer study	7	8	9 7 pm Midweek Lenten Service	10	11	12
13 Palm Sunday 9 am Worship Service	14	15	16	17	18 7 pm Good Friday Service	19
20 - Easter 7 am Sunrise Service 10:00 Worship Service	21 7 pm Council meeting	22	23 Newsletter input due	24 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service	25	26
27 9 am Worship Service	28	29 Newsletter mailed	30			

Monthly Assisting Ministers Calendar – April 2025

Date	Time	Usher(s)	Acolyte	Crucifer	Scripture/ Prayer	Server	Altar Guild	Counters
April 6	9:00 am Service	J & J Gerhart	L Lombardo	N Driscoll	L Ertel	L Groves	P Dowse & E Rebnegger	J Snider & S Davenport
April 13 Palm Sunday	9:00 am Service	J & D Snyder	Lisa Bell	L Groves	J Snider	Lou Bell	P Abaza & E Rebnegger	
April 16 Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm Service	See	Signup	Sheet	In Narthex		E Rebnegger	
April 17 Good Friday	7:00 pm Service	See	Signup	Sheet	In Narthex			
April 20 EASTER	7:00 am Sunrise Service	See	Signup	Sheet	In Narthex			
April 20 Easter	10:00 am Service	D & S Texter	See	Signup	Sheet	In Narthex	D & S Texter	D & S Texter
April 27	9:00 am Service	D Detweiler	E Park	F Park	T Daubert	P Abaza	R Bixler & L Lombardo	
May 4	9:00 am Service	J & J Gerhart	D Seward	J Seward	J Smith	P Tackett	K Park & L Ertel	R Bixler & J Smith

PLEASE NOTE:

- If you are unable to participate on your scheduled Sunday, please call one of the other individuals on the list and arrange to switch dates.