

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

July-August, 2009

Our mission is to share the life, love and joy of Jesus Christ with others.
Office: 610-828-3098
Fax: 610-828-3232
E-mail: revtodd@stpetershl.org / info@stpeterslh.org
On the web: www.stpeterslh.org

3025 Church Road
Lafayette Hill PA
19444-1707



PASTOR'S CORNER

In my personal devotional reading I was reflecting on these words spoken by Moses to the Israelites: *The Lord your God, who goes before you, is the one who will fight for you, just as he did for you in Egypt before your very eyes, and in the wilderness, where you saw how the Lord your God carried you, just as one carries a child, all the way that you traveled until you reached this place. But in spite of this, you have no trust in the Lord your God, who goes before you on the way to seek out a place for you to camp, in fire by night, and in the cloud by day, to show you the route you should take.*"

TRUST in the Lord. Doesn't "trust" also mean "have faith"? Just as God provided for the Israelites, God also provides for us. Admit it - even with all the problems we think we have, most of *us* are not worrying about food clothing and shelter. (If you are - give me a call so we can help. That's what we do.) We say we trust God - have Faith in God. We trust that God will continue to bless us. We trust that God will provide for our needs. We trust that God will give us the resources to do ministry. But the old saying applies, "Actions speak louder than words."

Why is it, that if we truly "trust" God, we don't share what we have until we receive enough to replace what we will give - in advance? Trusting God means doing what it takes *before* we have the proof that we will receive blessings in return. THAT'S what makes it Faith!

The Israelites from the above text in Deuteronomy had tons of proof that God would provide for them. Yet they still hesitated to trust that God would continue to bless them. Do we have more faith than that? Are we willing to give a faithful offering out of *this* paycheck before we receive the next one? Can't we pay for vacation and *still* send in our summer offerings to the Church? Shouldn't we still set our alarm to get up for Sunday worship even when we've been out late on Saturday night? God will continue

to bless us. God has *always* blessed us. We are his people. That's what God does. God trusts that we will be faithful to our commitment to ministry. Let's show God that we trust that our needs will continued to be met as we continue to be blessed. Let's do more than say it - let's SHOW it. Have a blessed summer!

Thank you from Jim Goodyear

Thank you to all who attended my farewell dinner and for the cards and gifts and well wishes of appreciation. It has been a blessing for me to be a part of St. Peter's this past year. Thank you for welcoming me into your lives growing together in faith as the people of God. May God continue to bless you and keep you in God's peace.

Jim Goodyear

Worship and Music Committee

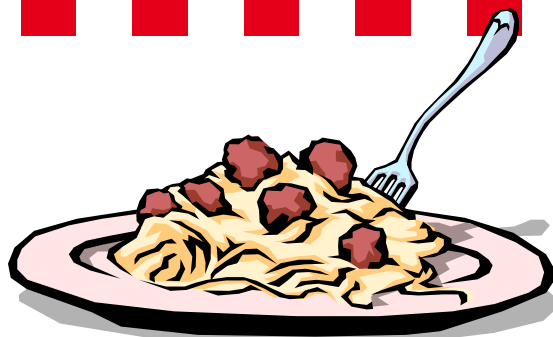
There is a lot to look forward to over the summer and into the fall. Please share your musical talents by participating in one of the summer services – the sign-up sheet is on the piano in the church. Special musical celebrations this summer will include “Christmas in July” which will be held on July 26, and the popular Gospel Music Sunday on August 23rd. We are also excited to expand special musical offerings to the 8:30 service on a monthly basis starting in the fall. If you are interested in sharing your talents, please contact Al Kammerle . New members are needed for the Handbell Choir and for the adult and children's choirs. Plans are underway for our Fine Arts Series. And, of course, it's never too early to be thinking about Boar's Head, 2010. We look forward to making a joyful noise unto the Lord – with your help!

YOUNG FAMILY GROUP NEWS.



SAVE THIS DATE: August 9th before/after both services. Young Family Group and SPY will be hosting an Alex's Lemonade stand. More information to come about joining us to help fight childhood cancer, one cup at a time!



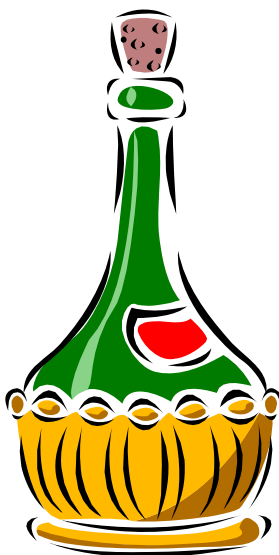


Mangia!!! St. Peter's !!!

How about reviving our Spaghetti Dinner/ Bake Sale?? Remember them???

We are hoping to have a Spaghetti Dinner/ Bake sale on Saturday, Sept 19th with proceeds to benefit World Hunger.

Volunteers are needed to help plan this event (a planning committee) as well as donations for the Bake sale (***St. Peter's has the BEST bakers!!!***) If you're interested in helping – we'll need lotsa help!!! Please contact Silvia Rotenbury @ 610/278-9548 or email: Silvi4259@yahoo.com





Backpack Program Begins July 1st

Social Ministry will begin collecting backpacks and school supplies July 1st through August 16th. St Peter's will team up with Quaker Chemical and the Seifert Family Foundation, to collect school supplies for students in the local area. Help our local kids get a great start to the school year by being prepared in September. Keep your eyes open for all those great back to school sales!

Wish List

Backpacks (Gender Neutral)
Marble Composition Books
Spiral Notebooks
Index Cards 3X5
Folders

No. 2 pencils
Pencil Erasers
Pencil Boxes
Pens
Sets of Colored Markers
Sets of Colored Pencils
Highlighters
Crayons

Glue Sticks
Bottles of glue
Student Scissors – Rounded
Ruler with Inches and Centimeters
Box of Tissues

If you know of a company who would like to join us in this effort, please contact Ellen Daneke at 610.324.9906 or esdaneke@aol.com



College Students Leaving for School

We are in need of their names, the college they are attending and their mailing address.

Please submit information to splcbern@comcast.net or drop a note off at the office to Bernadette



Colonial Neighborhood Council Food Pantry Food Drive

During the summer months, the Colonial Neighborhood Council Food Pantry's shelves are bare. Hunger doesn't go on vacation and there is still a great need to help keep our neighbors fed during these difficult times. Last summer, St Peter's did a fabulous job in collecting dry and can goods during the summer months. Please help us again this year by putting a focus on helping our neighbors in need. During the month of July, bring your donations in and place them in the containers in the Narthex.

Thank you for helping us share the life, love and joy of Jesus Christ with others.
God has a plan.....and we are it!

Communications Committee

St Peter's Council has formed a Communications Committee to review, evaluate, enhance and deliver quality communications to all of our members. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Ellen Daneke at esdaneke@aol.com or 610.324.9906



**National Youth Gathering
New Orleans July 22-26, 2009**

The National Youth Gathering is going to bring all new experiences to our youth. They will experience living out the mission of St Peter's by sharing the life, love and joy of Jesus Christ with others. They will realize that our family at St Peter's has grounded us in Christ and we will be sharing that love of Christ, with others.

This Gathering program will be different than Gatherings before. Planning teams worked with local congregations and organizations, young people and the city to pay attention to what makes the city of New Orleans unique, as well as better understanding the changes it is going through as the entire Gulf Coast region continues to recover after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The focus will be on service and justice as we live our shared reality as Christians: Marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are claimed, gathered, and sent for the sake of the world.

What remains the same about the Gathering is that youth and adults are immersed in worship, music, Bible study, service, learning, play, prayer, the witness of faithful leaders from around the world, reflection, caring for others and new friendships. The Gathering is a time of change and growth because we gather in the presence of God's Spirit with others who journey with Jesus.

Some of the speakers that we will hear at the Gathering are:

- [Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson](#) is the preacher at closing worship on Sunday morning
- [Don Miller](#), author of "Blue Like Jazz"
- [Marc Kielburger](#) with [Free the Children](#) and two young men, Spencer West and Michel Chikwanine from [Me to We](#), a sister organization to Free the Children

- [Liz McCartney](#), founder of the [St. Bernard Project](#) in New Orleans and 2008 recipient of a CNN Hero of the Year award. Some youth will have their ServantLife experiences at the St. Bernard Project.
- [Pastor Jay Bakker](#) (click on "Jay"), son of Tammy Faye and Jim Bakker who has a thriving ministry in Atlanta, GA.
- [Becca Stevens](#), chaplain at St. Augustine's Chapel, Vanderbilt Campus, author, and founder of an organization that helps women with a criminal history of prostitution and drug addiction.
- [Viola Vaughn](#), founder and executive director of the Women's Health Education and Prevention Strategies Alliance ([WHEPSA](#)) and [10,000 Girls](#) in Kaolack, Senegal (West Africa); 2008 recipient of a [CNN Hero of the Year](#) award.

<http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Youth-Ministry/Youth-Gathering.aspx>

Thank you again! Without your support, this opportunity would not be available to our youth.

We look forward in sharing our experience with you in September!