On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.

Matthew 2:11

Epiphany—January 6th
## 10:00 AM Service

### EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JAN. 6th
- Isaiah 60:1-6  
  Ephesians 3:1-12  
  Matthew 2:1-12  
  Sunday School

### BAPTISM of our LORD, JAN. 13th
- Isaiah 43:1-7  
  Acts 8:14-17  
  Luke 3:15-17, 21-22  
  Sunday School

### 2nd EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JAN. 20th
- Isaiah 62:1-5  
  1 Corinthians 12:1-11  
  John 2:1-11  
  Sunday School

### 3rd EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JAN. 27th
- Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10  
  1 Corinthians 12:12-31a  
  Luke 4:14-21  
  Sunday School

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### JANUARY 27, 2019

11:30 AM

Members of St. Peter’s Lutheran Church:

A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 27th at 11:30 AM.  
A Holy Communion Service will be held at 10:00 AM preceding the meeting.  
It is vital that YOU attend and exercise your right, as a member, in the discussion of the current status of the Church and it’s future.

Mitglieder der St. Peter’s Kirche:

Am Sonntag, dem 27 Januar 2019 wird um 11:30 Uhr eine Gemeindeversammlung abgehalten.  
Vor der Versammlung ist ein Gottesdienst mit Abendmahl um 10:00 Uhr angesetzt.
Boundaries Rearranged

A collision is taking place in the story of the magi coming to offer their gifts to Jesus. It is a collision we know well. It is the collision between outsiders who have something to gain and tight-fisted insiders who feel as though they have something to lose.

Have you ever noticed the contrast between the magi and Herod? The magi travel from afar to open their treasure chests, and presumably their hearts, to this new Christ. Herod's heart lurches and clenches and he has a tight-fisted temper tantrum at the prospect of sharing his power with anyone new, let alone some infant sought by strange astrologers!

Epiphany is about worlds colliding and boundaries being rearranged so that people who otherwise have nothing in common become one body. Many a Lutheran church sign reads, "All are welcome." Conceivably, "all" includes magi from the east, shepherds, Herod, young parents, newborn babies—you name it.

"All are welcome" sounds great, unless you're Herod. Unless you have something to lose by making room; unless the arrival of new folks, new traditions, or newness in general might mean that you have to share your power, your privilege, and your status.

Epiphany reveals two truths. The first is that God really means business when God says that all are welcome. God is all about a manger scene that's full of unlikely characters, full of unsuspecting worlds colliding and becoming the community of God. The second truth is that while God brings outsiders in, Herod stands in like a placeholder for all of us, revealing our propensity to become tight-fisted, selfish, and hostile when our privilege or status is challenged.

Luckily for us, God goes ahead and makes room for the outsider despite our protest.

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January 13, 2019

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Sharing Affirmations

As you prepare to worship today, take a moment to notice those gathering around you. There may be people you have known for many years, others you've known only a short time, and maybe some you have never met before. The assembly you see has been gathered together by the Holy Spirit on this day to share with one another the grace of God made known in Jesus Christ. These voices will share the word of God in readings, prayer, and song. These hands will give and receive signs of peace and bread and wine at the table.

In today's gospel we find another group of people gathering. John the Baptist has drawn them into the wilderness offering baptism with water. Amidst this assembly, Jesus Christ appears. He is baptized among them and receives divine affirmation: "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased" (Luke 3:22). From this assembly, Jesus goes forth to begin a ministry that will be marked by sharing with others the affirmation he received. The poor, the unloved, and the brokenhearted—they too are God's children, God's beloved, with whom God is well pleased.

Today, this affirmation is given to you and those around you to be rehearsed in this baptismal community. As worship ends, you, too, will be sent to share it with others. Throughout the coming week, in homes and workplaces, through service and prayer, during encounters with friends and strangers, the voices and hands of this assembly will continue the liturgy begun here out in the communities to which it disperses. In doing so, it will witness to one who is more powerful than any one of us: Jesus Christ. His love is present through the various gifts and callings we ourselves received in the waters of baptism. Thanks be to God!

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JANUARY:

Nicole (Rehner) McCarty 3
Olga Jaehn 11
Shawn Cherian 13
Horst Trautmann 14
Susanna Brooks 21
Andreas Lindert 26
Sam Klein 28
Jasmine Cherian 29

ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY:

Mr & Mrs Lorenz Dietz 12
Mr & Mrs Horst Reschke 29
Be faithful even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life!”
Revelation 2:10

Our parish lifts in prayer to the Lord these families who last month experienced the death of a loved one.

ROSEMARY (Rose) BERiNG passed away November 24, 2018 A Christian service was held Saturday, December 1st at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church. She is survived by her devoted husband, Tony; her loving children Bianca and Tony; her dear mother, Charlotte Klein and brother Daniel (Laura) Klein, nieces Sarah and Anna, as well as other extended family members.

ADOLF HOHENTANNER passed away November 30, 2018. A Christian service was held on December 7th at Peters Funeral Home. Dear husband of the late Elisabeth, he is survived by his sons Gary (Pauline) and Robert (Teri); he was the proud grandfather of Erica (Ryan) Hvizdos, Scott and Brian.

“Our sorrow is one less at home with us, but greater than our sorrow is the joy that there is one more at home in heaven forever and for good.”

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind? Should auld acquaintance be forgot and days of auld lang syne? For auld lang syne, my dear, for auld lang syne, we'll take a cup of kindness yet, for auld lang syne."
- Robert Burns, Auld Lang Syne

In 1788 the Robert Burns sent the poem 'Auld Lang Syne' to the Scots Musical Museum, indicating that it was an ancient song but that he'd been the first to record it on paper. The phrase 'auld lang syne' roughly translates as 'for old times' sake', and the song is all about preserving old friendships and looking back over the events of the year.

It is sung all over the world, evoking a sense of belonging and fellowship, tinged with nostalgia.

It has long been a much-loved Scottish tradition to sing the song just before midnight.

www.scotland.org
HAVE CAR, WILL TRAVEL?

All our “snowbirds” are heading South for the Winter! Won’t you please help fill in for them? Many of our regular drivers take a couple months off this time of year, but the need for transportation does not lessen. The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program needs drivers who can provide rides for our older and disabled neighbors so that they can get to doctor appointments and essential errands. Just a couple hours of your time can make a huge difference in someone’s life. You pick your own area & your own times. Drive as often or as little as you like in the comfort of your own car. Even one more ride a year might get someone to an appointment that could save their life!

Daytime drivers especially needed!

Please call IVC today at 586-757-5551 for more information.

I'm January

I’m January bringing you
A year of days—all brand, brand new;
I step upon the frosty ground.
When chimes and sleigh bells ring around;
You welcome me and children sing,
And joy comes into everything.
I bring you love and lots of cheer,
And work and friends for all the year.

by Annette Wynne

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN & WOMEN

Interested in enhancing the Sunday service?
Come join the Bell Choir and/or Church Choir.
No experience is necessary!

Contact Tim Meier for more information
313-886-3201

Cheer someone up by giving them a friendly call!

In Nursing Home:
Boehm, Eva
Schiszler, Hans
Wachner, Elsa

In Care Facility:
Zerrer, Ilse
Prideohl, Hannelore

At Home:
Christian & Heidi Heinzelman
Feli Kraemer
Mohr, Elisabeth

In Nursing Home:      In Care Facility:
Please pick up your new 2019 offering envelopes in the Luther Hall
THANK YOU!

FOR THE SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS
from all our Members and Friends and especially The Seniorenkreis

FOR THE POINSETTIAS:
Mr & Mrs Heinz Anger
Mr & Mrs John Benesch
Mr & Mrs Joachim Gablowski
Michael Ganesch
Walter Holderbaum
Sam Klein
Rosi Kuhlmann
Mr & Mrd Guenter Lahr
Susanna Leprich
Waltraud Limberg
Mr & Mrs Andreas Lindert

R & Mrs Scott Linsdeau
Mr & Mrs Tim Meier
Lore Neidhardt
Mr & Mrs Volker Nierhaus
Adele Reinke
Mr & Mrs Mike Tohlman
Gerry Udell
Mr & Mrs Ernst Wachner
Mr & Mrs Herbert Weihs
Mr & Mrs Peter Wild

Larry & Ruth Kracker for donating the Christmas Tree
Waldina Kloss for donating the Door Wreaths
The ladies and gentlemen who decorated the Church, the Christmas tree, Luther Hall, and outside

COOKIE SALE

Thank you to everyone who so generously helped with the baking of the cookies and packaging them. We are so grateful for all the support our Members and Friends gave St. Peter’s whether you gave your time, made a donation or purchased cookies. We netted $1,355.00 for St. Peter’s welfare.

THANK YOU!

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks and joy to the members of St. Peter’s for all the Christmas greetings, cards, goodies and gifts we received during the Holiday Season and wish to you . . . A BLESSED AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

From the Church Staff
Our Dec. 19th meeting was our Christmas Dinner Celebration. The room was decorated with bright lights, it was very inviting. Inge opened the meeting and welcomed everyone including guests.

Pastor Gerry said the opening prayer. We were in good hands. We had two Pastors among us. Both of them had so much to add to the festivities. Pastor Gross had a story about Joseph, our Lord’s earthly father, - which I personally never heard tell that way. Pastor Gerry explained what lies behind the meaning of what each Advent candle stands for—how enlightening and heartfelt. Thank you both very much. Of course Pastor Gross had an extra job—accompanying us on the piano. We sang eight songs, he sure made us sound better. Poems were read, solos were song. Herta read “Mary's”, magnificent, while John showed the video about it. Thank you both—you worked good together. As I felt the warmth and friendship in our gathering, one of our dear seniors came up to me asking to give me a hug saying, “I love to come here, it is so nice it feels like an extended family” - what a beautiful experience of love. So, if some of you would like to feel the same way, come and join us, we embrace and welcome you.

Rosie had a poem and also gave the “Bericht” or report. Thank you Rosie. Our President presented Larry Kracker with a check of $1,500.00 with thanks that we can use this room for our meetings.

Our kitchen crew served us again the most plentiful and delicious dinner. I know I repeat myself but I can’t help it to always ay thank you, it takes a lot of work to prepare all that. You work so well together, in a quiet way like little elves. Thank you and God bless you.

With the song “We wish you a Merry Christmas” our meeting came to an end. Pastor Gross spoke “das Tisch Gebet” or “prayer” and dinner was served.

As this year comes to an end, I thank God that I'm privileged to be able to be in such a wonderful group, most of all I thank God 2 who was with us for another year—asking Him to walk the way again with us into the New Year 2019—with Him no matter what, we don’t have to fear the future.

Our next meeting is January 23rd, weather permitting.

“We can be a ray of sunshine that helps someone in need.
That pocket-full of kindness when some’s spirit starts to bleed.
We can be that rainbow reaching through the dark and gloomy day, with a sprinkling of promise to show someone God’s way.
We can be that ray of sunshine that still shimmers through the storm.
We can be that candle burning or the fire that keeps us warm.
We can be the hand of Jesus when He reaches out in love.
A chosen testimony for our Father above.”

Maria Leprich
The Senioren board and our President Inge wish you a blessed and healthy New Year 2019.
Every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM, the children of the parish join in the early service through the Children’s Sermon. They are then excused to Luther Hall with their teacher for their lesson based on the Sunday lectionary used in worship.

Remember to talk to your children about the marvelous things they learned and did at Sunday School. You will see what a good time they have when they come!

Help our children meet their faithful Sunday School attendance!
Everyone enjoys the fellowship of our coffee hours after the services.

Won’t you please consider hosting the Coffee Hour one Sunday morning, perhaps to celebrate a birthday or anniversary? Or just donate a cake or batch of cookies.

Please let the office, 586-979-3850, know if you plan on hosting a particular Sunday.

Thank you!

A Happy New Year!

With smiling faces and hearts full of cheer
Let’s enter into a grace-filled year.
Four precious seasons that promise to bring
Chances to love God, our Father the King.
Twelve glorious months to serve mankind’s needs,
Fifty-two weeks to do loving deeds,
Hundreds of fresh days our loves to fulfill
By doing with love God’s unerring will.
So, enter with joy for rich blessings are there,
Enter as a child in God’s royal care,
Enter with great love for “Love casts our fear”
Enter expecting a good year is here.
Then trade time wisely for graces that last,
Moments are fleeting a year is soon past!

[Sr. M. G. Brunke]

Respectfully, Rosi Kuhlmann
(586) 792-9080
“SIMPLY GIVING”
Electronic Transfers
For your Offerings
Made easy

Simply Giving

“Simply Giving” is an automated giving program designed to help you conveniently and consistently contribute to St. Peter’s Lutheran Church. Through “Simply Giving”, your offerings are made through a preauthorized withdrawal from your bank account. You determine the frequency of your automatic gift—weekly, semi-monthly or monthly—the option is yours. Your offering is deposited into the church’s bank account on the same day it is withdrawn from your account—at NO cost to you or the church.

Benefits to you and to your Congregation

“Simply Giving” is a reliable, safe way to move your stewardship plan into action. It allows you to share your offerings through planned giving and activates your generosity into ongoing stewardship. Because your offering is given consistently, you won’t need to play “catch-up” at yearend or worry about forgotten checkbooks or missed Sunday offerings.

But you’re not the only one that benefits. Your congregation benefits from steady, more predictable revenues throughout the year, more efficient bookkeeping and greater confidence in meeting its financial commitments.

Why does Thrivent Financial for Lutheran offer Simply Giving?

Thrivent Financial offers Simply Giving to further its mission of serving Lutheran congregations and institutions.

How do I participate?

Complete an enrollment form and return it to your church. Contact Tim Meier (313-886-3201) for an enrollment form.

Whom do I call if I have more questions about Simply Giving?

Simply Giving will be administered by Vanco Services, LLC, an outside vendor that Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has contracted with to provide administrative services. Contact Tim Meier for more information (313-886-3201).