

March
2021



St. Peter's Reformed Church

320 E. Grandview Avenue

Zelienople, PA 16063

(724) 452-8120

stpzelie.org

A P U B L I C A T I O N O F S T . P E T E R ' S R E F O R M E D C H U R C H

The Joyful Noiseletter



He Will Deliver You!

Lenten Greetings,

As many of you know, the Lenten season is one of my favorite times in the Christian calendar. Lent means many things to many people. To some it means giving up their favorite 'thing' until Easter—maybe it's coffee, or sweets, or smoking (your lungs 'thank you!'). To others, Lent means a time of renewal. It's a time to renew their faith in God and get re-connected with Him through church or bible study. To others, it's also a time of repentance; a time to 'come clean' before God and hit the 'reset' button ... kinda like a 'do-over' or for our golfers out there - a mulligan!

Lent is my favorite time of year because it was at that time when God grabbed me and 'delivered' me from the path of destruction that I found myself on. This coming Good Friday will be the 40th anniversary of my salvation celebration. I remember sitting at that Good Friday service and Pastor Dick Ott sharing how important it is to have a relationship with the living Christ by turning away from destructive habits or things that cause a divide between ourselves and God. And as he spoke and I heard him convey the words of Jesus' love for all people, including myself, it had a profound impact on my life and I knew that I needed to make a life-change. *Jesus was my rock, my fortress and my deliverer.*

Jesus is in the 'life-change' business. He is in the business of delivering people. According to *Dictionary.com*, the word deliver means to carry and turn over; to surrender. On that Good Friday evening, as I felt the weight of the sacrifice of Jesus' love for me, I wept and gave my heart to Christ. I felt delivered! I turned over / surrendered the old Jim and put on a new Jim (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Today, as I write this months Pastor's Pen, I thought about the many times in Scripture when Jesus 'delivered' various people. He delivered the woman caught in adultery; the man stricken with leprosy, and the woman

who had a twelve year bleeding disorder, to name a few. But I think my favorite story would be the one who was delivered named Mary Magdalene.

Scripture tells us that Mary Magdalene was a woman who had been delivered from seven demons (Luke 8:2). Seven is a biblical number suggesting 'completeness' and implying that when the evil spirits dominated Mary, the suffering would have been severe. Her deliverance or liberation from demonic influence appears as one of the most faithful and beautiful characters of the Bible. She became a true worshipper and follower of Jesus. *Jesus was her rock, her fortress and her deliverer.* Delivered, Mary became a disciple. And the Bible tells us that she was with him throughout his earthly ministry, following him wherever he went.

Mary's deliverance created a deep love and devotion to Jesus. She supported his ministry through financial resources and served as a support to Mary, Jesus' mother, as they traveled with him through the mock trial, beating and crucifixion. Her undying devotion was rewarded on Easter morning when Jesus appeared to her and called her name! Can you only imagine the sheer joy and exhilaration of seeing the risen Jesus?

That, my friends, is how our lives are transformed by being delivered by Jesus. Have you been delivered? Has your life been changed by having a relationship with the living Christ? Too many times we wait until our lives are spiraling out of control before we cry out to Jesus. Don't subject yourself to that anymore. Like Mary, allow Jesus to deliver you from the many demons that possess you. Allow his transforming words and life to reflect his love while transforming you into his likeness. *Allow Jesus to be your rock, your fortress and your deliverer.* I pray that you will have a "Good Friday" experience today!

Because I have been delivered ...

Love,

Pastor Jim

"The Chosen"

Lenten DVD/Bible Study

Sunday Evenings ~ 7:00 p.m.

St. Peter's Sanctuary

The Chosen is the first ever multi-season show about the life of Jesus. Created outside of the Hollywood system, and funded by the public, The Chosen allows us to see Jesus through the eyes of those who knew him. No matter where you are at in your journey with Jesus, this show is for you!

Season One follows the life of Peter, the charismatic fisherman drowning in debt, Mary Magdalene the one troubled with demons, Matthew, the gifted publican ostracized by his family and people, and Nicodemus, the religious leader struggling with his beliefs. See Jesus through the eyes of each of these characters and watch how their lives are changed and how your life can be changed too!



From the president...

I was shocked to read the other day that Joe Namath is not the most effective advertiser/endorser on television! How could he not be?

Namath promotes a Medicare product and *guarantees* he can save money. For folks in that age group, they heard him make the most famous guarantee in sports history - and deliver. He guaranteed that his New York Jets would win Super Bowl III over the highly favored Baltimore Colts. For those that need a historical perspective, the most recent Super Bowl was the fifty-fifth, so it was a while ago - but that's why he should be so believable to the group that cares about Medicare - and to those real close to it, I can personally attest.

At the time, the Jets' win was described as the biggest upset since David took down Goliath so Namath should have credibility. To those of us from Beaver County, it wasn't quite as big a surprise since Namath is from Beaver Falls and already had fans. Ironically, his backup, Vito "Babe" Parilli was from just a few miles away in Rochester and, at the time, that seemed like long odds but Joe's performance pushed those long odds to trivia games.

Against that backdrop, I'm pleased to announce that Sunday School will be reopening on March 7. Consistory considered this issue at length and discussed all angles to reach this challenging decision. However, I still cannot provide any guarantees - and wouldn't ask Joe Namath to, either - that nothing could go wrong... but I can guarantee that we will be doing everything possible to keep everyone safe.

The rooms will be cleaned, ultraviolet lighting will be used, social distancing will be maintained, students will keep their masks on, and each student will have their own unique working materials week to week.

The teachers will be working very hard to continue to make it safe as well. We understand that everyone will not feel completely comfortable yet and we realize that but, we're doing everything we can to make it as safe as possible.

Please prayerfully consider returning to Sunday School when we reopen March 7 and remember, if you're looking for a complete, absolute guarantee, read John 3:16. Ultimately, that's the guarantee that matters.

Thanks to all for all you do.

Bill

Director of Volunteer Ministries/Pastoral Intern and Director of Youth Ministries Updates

Greetings Church Family,

We are cruising right through these cold and snowy days of winter, I do not know about of all you but I was excited for all the snow and the cold weather we had in the beginning, but now I am fully looking ahead to the nice sunny days of spring! Spring time is my second favorite time of the year right behind fall, but there is so much to enjoy about spring, all the new beginnings, the weather changes, flowers and trees begin to grow, and the return of baseball season. However, I have been focused on the idea of all the growth that happens in the spring time, whether it is flowers, trees, or even growth within ourselves. I know for me, this spring season will be a period of great growth both personally and professionally. Julie and I are moving closer to our wedding date in April, but I am also taking on the new opportunity of being the youth director as well.

I am very blessed and thankful for this new and exciting opportunity. I am even more blessed and thankful to be able to move into a position and a program that is so well built. Aubrey has done an amazing job over the last three years with the Youth Group and TNT and I am both nervous yet excited to fill such big shoes left by her.

As I get a handle on the various aspects of the position, there are a few things that I would like to make everyone aware of. First, we are still planning for a Mission Trip to Lumberton NC, with the dates of July 18th to the 24th. With that, the Youth Group will be holding various fundraisers this spring and summer, so be on the look out for them. Also, we will need to find adult chaperones for the trip, so I ask that you please prayerfully consider going and if you would like more information, please let me know. Second, our meetings dates/times will remain the same for the time being. Lastly, if you or someone you know needs any yard work or a project done, please contact me for a willing workers request!

Also, our volunteer ministries are continuing throughout the spring season and all meetings are still following our Covid protocols. We have many exciting groups being held in the coming weeks. PJ and Kendra are holding a Lenten Bible study on Sunday evenings right now, Sara Jacobs is holding a Financial Peace class, as well as other various groups continuing meeting. If you would like more information about these groups let me know or if you would like to start a group or study of your own, please let me know and I would love to be able to help out any way I can.

Lastly, as I said above, the spring time is time for growth and new opportunities. Colossians 2:6-7 says, "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness." My prayer for all of you is that you continue to grow in your faith and that you continue to seek the Lord in all that you do! Stay healthy, stay safe, and stay praying.

In Christ,
Pastor Andrew



Palm Sunday ~ March 28, 2021

10:15 a.m.

Come and receive your palms as we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem!

Good Friday ~ April 2, 2021

12:00 Noon

Community Cross Walk (Begins at Grace Church and ends at Passavant Health Center

7:00 p.m.

"Meditation on the Nails"

Remembering the nails that pierced the hands and feet of our Lord was our sin!

Resurrection Sunday ~ April 4, 2021

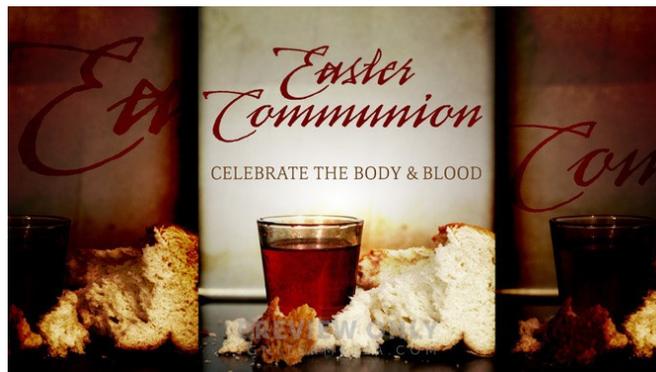
10:15 a.m.

"Why the Big Deal?"

Resurrection Celebration and Communion

April Communion Benevolence—Chuck Horstman

Our Holy Week/Easter Sunday Communion offerings in April will be going to Chuck Horstman. Chuck has been hospitalized over the past three months. He has been battling a myriad of health problems including cancer and pneumonia. As his treatments continue, so do the costs of care. Chuck is married to his wife, Karen, and the father of three young children. He serves as youth director at St. John's Burry's Church. Your prayers along with your financial support for Chuck and his family would be so appreciated during this difficult time in their lives.



EASTER FLOWERS - 2021

Orders for Easter flowers are now being taken. You may place your order for person or persons to be honored or memorialized. They will be placed in the sanctuary for Easter and you may take them following the worship service on Sunday, April 4th.

Please fill out the following form and with the correct amount of payment, give to Debbie Kirsch or Sheri McMaster. Make your check payable to **ST. PETER'S REFORMED CHURCH**. If you can't drop off the form and payment to the church, please mail it in.

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS MARCH 14th!!

(PLEASE PRINT)

Person or persons to be memorialized --

Person or persons to be honored --

BY _____

EASTER LILIES (6" pot)	_____	@ \$8.00 EACH
MUMS (6" pot) Yellow	_____	@ \$8.00 EACH
White	_____	" "
Purple	_____	" "
TULIPS (6" pot) Red	_____	@ \$8.00 EACH
Pink	_____	" "
Yellow	_____	" "

TOTAL OF ORDER \$ _____

UGANDA MISSION TEAM NEWS



Hello St. Peter's and greetings from the Uganda Mission Trip Team. I wanted to fill you in on the latest happenings in Kalyango Uganda. The new church building now has the roof trusses and metal sheeting completed. The floor has been smoothed out and they are using the building for gathering and teaching personal hygiene.

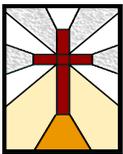
Joseph Aliguma, our "go to guy" has been doing a wonderful job for us since we can't be there ourselves. He has made sure that the funds we have sent over are being dispersed properly. He has taken the medical teams out to the village and assisted in administering meds and treatment where it is needed. He has also taken it upon himself to educate the people who are most affected in the village. He has been teaching them how to do preventative measures to keep the infections down. This is all being done in our new church building.

The church building has more to be done and more funds need to be raised, but according to Joseph, the villagers need to do this on their own so they can feel that it is their church and not just the Americans. As you can see, Joseph is doing a great job in all of these projects.

We are still hoping to bring Joseph over here this summer, but again it all depends upon the Covid situation. We also hope to start our dinners soon and start raising funds for our next trip.

Please, if you have an interest in what we do, stop Jim Schulz any Sunday. He has pictures on his phone and will be more than happy to answer any questions. St. Peter's should be proud of the work that you all have been supporting to our Christian brothers and sisters in Uganda. It is a pleasure to serve the Lord in such a capacity.

God Bless you all,
The Uganda Mission Trip Team



SOUTHWEST BUTLER FOOD CUPBOARD

557 Perry Highway

Harmony, PA 16037

Phone: 724.453.4184

Website: www.swbfoodcupboard.org

Below you will find news regarding what's needed at the Southwest Butler Food Cupboard. Our food needs for March are:

Canned fruit	Rice
Condensed soup	Rice/Pasta sides
Pasta	Ready to eat soup
Pasta Sauce	Chef Boyardee
Peanut Butter	Mac & Cheese
Jelly	Dessert mix
Cereal	Instant Oatmeal
Beans (baked, black, refried, etc.)	Sloppy Joe mix
Helper meals	
Canned chicken	
Tuna	

Thank you for your support! Erin Makowski, Director

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

LOOKING AHEAD ...

Welcome back home

After much prayer and discussion we have decided to start Sunday School back up on **March 7th** at 9:00 am. We will have a safe classroom available for **ALL** ages. Please wear masks. This is a great way to learn Gods word and grow relationships within our church.

Hope to see you all then. See Heather for any questions.

LET'S GO CAMPING!
SEE HEATHER FOR
DETAILS ON CAMPS AND
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
(St. Peter's Camp Fund).
THEN RELAX AND
WATCH AS YOUR CHILD
GROWS IN THEIR WALK
WITH THE LORD.





ALL ABOARD VBS 2021

**Join us along with Park Church for a fun-filled VBS
aboard a train heading to Jesus.**

August 1st—5th

@ 6:00-8:30PM

**Sign up and jump aboard and see just how Jesus' power
can pull us through anything.**

Upcoming "We Care" Visitations

We are planning to have our "We Care" visitations, as much as we are able, on **Tuesday, March 23rd and Wednesday, March 24th** at 12:30pm in the Meet N' Greet area. Please see Sally Hamilton if you are interested in participating this time around. Thanks!!



CONSISTORY UPDATE

- Deacons Completed the 2020 Financial Audit
- Holy Week Communion Offering – Chuck Horstman Family

If you have any questions, please contact me at 724-316-0676 or via email at wgrubbs@p-r-i.org.

Thank you,
Wendy Grubbs
Consistory Secretary

Women's Ministry News

Women's Ministry will meet on **Saturday, March 13th** at 10 am - 12 noon in the Fellowship room for the Secret Sis Reveal and selection of new Secret Sisters followed by a Bible Video Study on Priscilla - Living a Life of Blessed Ordinary. We will also have a short business meeting to discuss how we should deal with our service projects (especially VOICe) due to COVID-19 Virus restricting many organizations from accepting donated items. VOICe notified me that they are not accepting any donated items until April 29th but will accept financial contributions.

You may bring a simple snack to share with the group if you would like. We will be practicing measures to maintain safety due to the COVID-19 virus. I pray that everyone is doing well and looking forward to seeing you again.

Blessings,
Marla Clouse



Happy March Birthday to:

*Karen Rader ~ March 9 ~ 80 years young
Gayle Butcher ~ March 14 ~ 83 years young
Russell Robertson ~ March 20 ~ 92 years young
Millie Waybright ~ March 25 ~ 84 years young
Shirley Wahl ~ March 29 ~ 86 years young*



ATTENTION: New address changes

Jean Wittenmeyer
130 Ridgeview Lane
Harmony, PA 16037

Mr. and Mrs. William Eppinger
101 Burgess Drive - ALCIL 103
Zelienople, PA 16063

Linda Rape
400 Hillcrest Ave., Rm. 240
Grove City, PA 16127

Larry Rape
Wittenberg Place—Apt. 303
2000 May Drive
Zelienople, PA 16063

Mrs. Taryn Bartolicus
111 Dutchtown Road
Butler, PA 16001

No more money fights!

With *Financial Peace University*, you and your spouse will learn how to create (and stick to) a budget, save for emergencies, and make a plan for the future. Doesn't that sound peaceful?

I'm offering FPU at **St. Peter's Reformed Church** just for you starting **Sunday, March 14, 2021** at 6pm in the Fellowship Room. If you're interested in learning more, send me a message to Sara Jacobs: sarajj1103@gmail.com. You can sign up and start your 14-day free trial of Financial Peace at fpu.com/1134282.

Dave Ramsey's

Financial *Peace*
UNIVERSITY

Thank You Note



Dear St. Peter's,

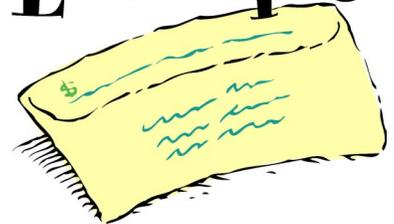
We are all blessed to have such a wonderful church family. Thank you for all the love, concern and prayers through the many cards, e-cards, texts and phone calls sent to both of us, during our illnesses and Tim's hospitalization. We are so very comforted, touched and appreciative.

Sincerely,
Tim & Sharyn McMaster

ATTENTION ST. PETER'S:

If any St. Peter's member who is now using our online offering and no longer wishes to receive the offering envelopes in the mail, please contact Sheri McMaster in the church office at (724) 452-8120. Thanks!!

Offering Envelopes



St. Peter's Youth ~ Coming up in March

Youth Group:

Meetings – Sunday 3/7 and 3/21, 6-8pm @ church

TNT:

Meetings – Thursday 3/4 and 3/18, 6:30-8pm @ church

****TNT is selling St. Peter's facemasks!** They have adjustable straps, adjustable nose piece, and a pocket for a filter. One filter is provided with each mask. The masks are \$12 apiece and proceeds will go towards TNT's Free Little Library.**



****Just a few left!!** TNT is selling 2021 Pocket Planners to raise money for a St. Peter's "Little Free Library". They are \$2 a piece or 2 for \$3. They will be available Sundays after worship service in the Gathering Area, please see Sheri if you still need one.**

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH - READ ALL ABOUT IT!!

As we begin March and look forward to spring coming right around the corner (hopefully), why not make the final days of winter be a challenge to you to open a good book and enjoy what our St. Peter's Library has to offer!

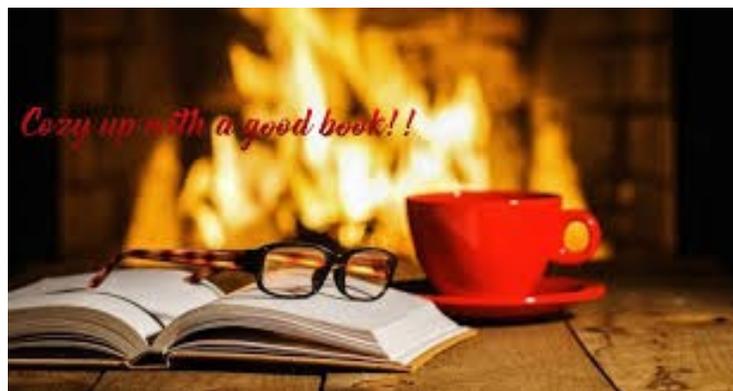
The following are three fiction books from well known authors we all love and adore:

“Acceptable Risk” by Lynette Eason: ‘Sarah Denning is a military journalist with the Army in the Middle East when she is taken hostage. When former Army Ranger Gavin Black is asked by his old unit commander—Sarah’s imposing father—to plan an extremely risky rescue, he reluctantly agrees and successfully executes it. Back in the US, Sarah is livid when she’s discharged on a false psychiatric evaluation and vows to return to the Army. Until she learns of her brother’s suicide. Unable to believe her brother would do such a thing, she puts her plans on hold and enlists Gavin to help her discover the truth. What they uncover may be the biggest story of Sarah’s career—if she can survive long enough to write it.’

“Point of Danger” by Irene Hannon: ‘Radio talk show host Eve Reilly is used to backlash from her pot-stirring on-air commentary and interviews. But now it seems a disgruntled listener is resorting to more than angry words to express their displeasure. When a suspicious package arrives on her doorstep, Eve turns to law enforcement for help. Police detective Brent Lange can’t find any evidence to link the string of unsettling incidents that follows, but he’s convinced they’re connected. As the harassment grows more menacing, it becomes clear someone wants Eve’s voice silenced—permanently. But unless he can track down her elusive foe, the gutsy woman who is willing to take risks for what she believes—and who is swiftly winning his heart—may not survive.’

“The Escape” by Lisa Harris: ‘US Marshals Madison James and Jonas Quinn have orders to transport two high-profile prisoners across the country on a private plane. But when the plane experiences engine trouble en route from the Pacific Northwest to Colorado, the pilots crash-land the aircraft deep in the heart of the sprawling Salmon-Challis National Forest. With both pilots and one prisoner dead—and one fugitive on the run—Madison and Jonas must negotiate the rugged and remote backcountry as they track a murderer who is desperate to disappear...and will do anything to stop them.’

Happy March reading!!



VBS Registration Form

(One Form per Child)



General Information:

Student Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

Aug. 1st thru Aug. 5th
6-8:30pm

Family Email Address: _____

Phone Numbers:

Home _____

Cell _____

Date of Birth _____

Age _____

Last Grade Completed _____

(Week of VBS)

Emergency Information:

Emergency Contact _____

Phone _____

Work _____

Cell _____

Allergies/Medical Information/Other _____

Public Relations Information:

Home Church _____

How did you hear of our VBS? _____

Friends attending the VBS/Church? _____

Church Use ONLY:

Group _____

Leader _____

Are parents/siblings/guardians/family members helping with VBS? _____

*** If your child has Special Needs, please ask for the secondary form for Special Needs Considerations. Thanks you! ***



March

2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday School 9:00am Worship 10:15am		Head Usher For March Paul Reynolds				
	1 5:30pm AA Mtg. ~ Fellowship Room 6:30pm Elder's Mtg. ~ Ed. Bldg.	2	3 9am Prayer Group 7pm Choir ~ Sanctuary 7pm Small Group Bible Study ~ Ed. Bldg. 7pm The Journey	4 11:30-1pm Ministerium 6:30pm TNT Mtg. ~ Youth Room	5	6
7 9am Confirmation Class ~ Ed. Bldg. 6-8pm Youth Group Mtg. ~ Youth Room 7pm "The Chosen" Lenten Bible Study ~ Sanctuary	8 5:30pm AA Mtg. ~ Fellowship Room	9 6-9pm MOMS Group Mtg. ~ Basics Room 7pm Consistory Mtg. ~ F. Room	10 9am Prayer Group 5pm Feed My Sheep prep work 7pm Choir ~ Sanctuary 7pm The Journey 7pm Small Group Bible Study ~ Ed. Bldg.	11	12	13 10am Women's Ministry Mtg. ~ Fellowship Rm.
14 9am Confirmation Class ~ Ed. Bldg. 6-8pm Financial Peace University ~ Fellowship Rm. 7pm "The Chosen" Lenten Bible Study ~ Sanctuary	15 5:30pm AA Mtg. ~ Fellowship Room	16	17 9am Prayer Group 7pm Choir ~ Sanctuary 7pm The Journey 7pm AFSP Support Group 7pm Small Group Bible Study ~ Ed. Bldg.	18 6:30pm TNT Mtg. ~ Youth Room	19	20 10-2pm MOMS Easter Party ~ Fellowship Rm.
21 9am Confirmation Class ~ Ed. Bldg. 6-8pm Youth Group Mtg. ~ Youth Room 6-8pm FPU ~ Fellowship Rm. 7pm "The Chosen" Lenten Bible Study ~ Sanctuary 28 9am Confirmation Class ~ Ed. Bldg. 6-8pm FPU ~ Fellowship Rm. 7pm "The Chosen" Lenten Bible Study ~ Sanctuary	22 5:30pm AA Mtg. ~ Fellowship Room 29 5:30pm AA Mtg. ~ Fellowship Room	23 12:30pm "We Care" Visitations ~ Meet n' Greet 30	24 9am Prayer Group 12:30pm "We Care" Visitations 7pm Choir ~ Sanctuary 7pm The Journey 7pm Small Group Bible Study ~ Ed. Bldg. 31 9am Prayer Group 7pm Choir ~ Sanctuary 7pm The Journey 7pm Small Group Bible Study ~ Ed. Bldg.	25	26	27