

September 2023



THE BEACON:

St. Peter's on the Hill

"Let your light shine before others"



1193 Clover Mill Rd., Chester Springs, PA 19425
stpeterspikeland.org 610.933.6419
stpeterspikelanducc@verizon.net

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17th

Join us on Sunday, September 17th to celebrate a special day in the life of our church! *We will be celebrating all of our members who have crossed their 90th birthday milestone!* See Pages 2 & 3 for highlighted memories from these special members.

This special day is sure to be a great day for all as we also kick off our Fall Season with a...

FALL FESTIVAL

Bring your kids, grandkids & great grandkids

Bring your best homemade pie

Pie tasting & judging contest

Food & fun for all ages



Room to Read

It's back to school time! Which means it is Room to Read time. Sending young women back to school across the world changes lives and communities. St. Peter's has been very generous with this worthwhile program.

You will hear more from us, but, for now, a few details. We hope you have had a good summer that included some marvelous books. Please bring any book donations you have that are no older than 6 years to Fellowship Hall, preferably by September 20.

Please plan to join us for the book sale:

Sunday, September 24: 11am – 12 pm

Sunday, October 1: 11am – 12 pm

R2R Sunday – Sunday, October 10: 11-12

We could use help: please see any of us below if you can help us set up the sale on the evening of Thursday, September 20 or would like to help us with this worthy mission. We look forward to seeing you there!

-Diane Dunn, Wayne Freese and Herman Nieuwenhuizen

Memories From our Special Members

SHIRLEY DETWILER



Shirley and her family started coming to St. Peter's in 1953. At that time, they lived in Kimberton, on one side of a house with Jack and Sarah Dunmore. The Dunmores often babysat their children. In 1963, they moved to their home on East Seven Stars Rd.

Later on, Shirley became active with the Sewing Circle, and always attended the monthly meetings for years. The Detwilers attended church regularly, and developed many friendships here.

ANNAMAE MOORE



Annamae has been a part of the life of St. Peter's since she was a girl. Her father, as a young man who came from England, got a job on the Emery farm. The Emerys eventually brought Annamae to this church.

Over time, Annamae got involved in many aspects of our church's life. She is a member of the Sewing Circle, and was an Elder. Around 2006, she was placed on the staff of the church as the Pastoral Care Coordinator. In more recent years, Annamae became the Worship Coordinator.

When asked about memories of the church, Annamae, in typical style, simply said, "I love everybody."

JEAN NEIMAN



Jean came to our church as a teenager from the Lutheran church, along with Tekie Wise, because there was a youth program here. At that time, before the United Church of Christ was formed, St. Peter's was a member of the Evangelical and Reformed denomination.

Jean started playing the organ when still just a child, and eventually was the organist and choir director here. She mentioned that John Pandjak, a member of the choir, used to keep her on her toes with suggestions about the music; often good ones that she appreciated.

Jean has too many memories to pick just one or two, but her membership in the Sewing Circle continues to be a joy in her life.

GEORGE "BERT" SMITH



Bert's faith journey began in the Brethren Church, but after he and Nancy (Campbell) Smith got married, he started attending her church here at St. Peter's, where they got married. They were married for over 40 years.

For a time, they both sang in the choir, under Music Director, Jean Neiman. They both loved the Hanging of the Greens service, and enjoyed many friendships here.

BILL and BETTE MILLER



Bill and Betty moved to this area from New Jersey in 1963. They came to a service here at St. Peter's, but at that time, there were only about 12 people attending worship. Because they wanted a Sunday School for their young children, they joined First Presbyterian Church in Phoenixville. However, around the mid 1970s, they both came back to St. Peter's, and have been here ever since.

Bette joined the choir, but she said definitely not Bill, as he was better at appreciating the music.

Although they didn't have any specific memories to lift up, they both are just very grateful for the many years of friendships and sense of community here in our church family.

VIRGINIA LAWRENCE



Virginia was born in 1926, and graduated from Phoenixville HS in 1944, then graduated from the Jefferson University Nursing Program in 1947.

She was a member of St. John's UCC in Phoenixville, later joining St. Peter's in 1969. In those years, Virginia served on the Consistory, was the Secretary, and also an Elder. As an active member, she was a member of the Sewing Circle, the Choir, and involved with the Heifer Project.

Virginia helped with the Roast Beef and Ham supper when the event was held in the church basement, using the small kitchen still located there. It was lots of people, and hard to move around.

In 1976, church services were held in the lower level of Fellowship Hall while the main church was renovated. The sanctuary was expanded, and the Pastor's Office was added. Her husband Frank had the painting contract for the renovation work in church.

HUGH LAWSON



When Sylvia and I were house hunting in 1993, we drove past St. Peter's several times and said to ourselves, "That looks like the kind of place we would like to go." Once we got settled in our house, we attended one Sunday morning, and we never went anywhere else. We attended regularly on Sundays for many years, and I have many wonderful memories. We met our best friends at St. Peter's through the Friday Boys and the Sewing Circle. We used to enjoy attending Dick and Edna Hannum's annual Friday Boys Memorial Day cookouts where we would play bocce ball, and the yearly Sewing Circle picnics and Christmas Parties.

I enjoyed working on many projects with the Friday Boys. We folded the programs every Sunday and worked on various maintenance projects like trimming shrubbery, cleaning up the cemetery, and doing some carpentry work when needed. One project I really enjoyed working on was refurbishing one of the original stained-glass windows when Fellowship Hall was renovated. It was donated back to the church by a member who had purchased it. I cleaned, repaired, and painted it. I also enjoyed my work as the church treasurer for many years. I had the opportunity to implement a new software accounting program and designed a chart of accounts. Although I am not able to attend regularly on Sundays as I used to, St. Peter's is always with me through the memories I carry in my heart.

ERNIE COCCIA



Ernie was born June 16, 1926 at home in Phoenixville PA. The 8th child born of Italian immigrants.

After he returned home from the war in 1946 he met and married his love of his life, Dolores and had 3 girls. He was a home builder by trade. Later he would turn to remodeling old homes and in retirement built houses for birds and sold them at local craft fairs. Before retirement he briefly worked for a road contractor repairing local bridges and other road projects. He worked on repairs for "Rapps Dam Bridge" and also did the stone work on the bridge on Yellow Springs Rd. He is both neighbor and friend to many at St Peter's. He enjoys visits from St Peter's at Christmastime as the caroler's would include him on their route. He would sing along and tap his foot. He was there when St Peter's honored Our Veterans! He is very proud of his service in WWII and has many stories about his time in the Navy.

Sewing Circle News



Annual Luncheon

On August 9th we had our luncheon at Chadwick's in Audubon. It was a beautiful day and we had a great time catching up with each other. We all feel very fortunate to be able to help our local missions and have a good time in the process.



First Meeting

Our first meeting is Wednesday, September 13th. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. This is the beginning of our busy season and we have a lot to get done to be ready for the Ingathering.



There is still time to come to our Baby Shower. Our display and list of items needed is located by the office in Fellowship Hall.



Harvest Home Sunday



Harvest Home begins September 24th and ends October 15th. Please look for the list of items needed in our Sunday bulletin. If you prefer to make a cash donation, see Kathleen Wachsmuth. She and her helpers will purchase whatever items are needed the most. Mums will be available to purchase after church on Sunday, October 15th.

Bethany Children's Home Dinner

Bethany will be hosting a special tribute dinner on Thursday, September 21 to celebrate the last 160 years in the life of Bethany!

Tickets are available for those who may want to attend, but you must RSVP by the 13th.

See invite below for information!



\$75 per person

\$500 1/2 table of 4. Logo in program and presentation

\$1000 table of 8. Logo in program and presentation

Spots are filling up fast!

For more information on sponsorships or questions, please call 610-589-6828.

Relief for Maui

On August 8, the fires in Maui began, burning over 10 square miles. The fires were still burning at the end of the month.

Many have died, hundreds of others are unaccounted for, and thousands of people have been displaced.

The fire ranks as the deadliest U.S. wildfire in over a century.

We will be collecting monetary donations for the victims of the fires in Maui. The collections will be added to our disaster relief fund. Please see Jim Phillips or Dick Sherman for more information.



The historic Waiola UCC Church in Lahaina





September Birthdays

Kyra Dick	9/1
April Gingrich	9/1
Morgan Beatty	9/4
Susan Reichenbach	9/5
Kyle Mest	9/5
David Gale	9/7
Caroline Giordano	9/10
Russell Hanscom	9/12
Stacy Griffiths	9/12
Kendall Beatty	9/12
Kathy Barry	9/13
Lilly Mansmann	9/14
Joey Newell	9/14
Tracy Neiman	9/17
Gail Phillips	9/17
Max Nordhoff	9/18
Mia Nordhoff	9/18
Beth Stein	9/18
Kerri Kelly	9/19
Jackie Warner	9/21
Scott Hackman	9/22
Victoria Cagliola	9/23
Bob Biddle	9/24
Travis McClimon	9/24
Gary Sproule	9/27
Jean Neiman	9/30

Anniversaries

Don Giordano and Carol Hughes
 Chip and Debbie Griffiths
 Scott and Sarah Hackman
 Doug and Susan Hanson
 Herman and Rebecca Nieuwenhuizen
 Shawn and Jackie Nordhoff
 John and Marielle Stewart
 James and Jennifer Wachsmuth



Sunday Worship Needs

Thank you to everyone who signed up to fill spots over the Summer to help with our worship needs. Your willingness to volunteer to help make our Sunday worship run smoothly was very much appreciated!

We are heading into the Fall season with the same needs. Please take a moment to look at the needs below and consult your calendar.

Ushers Needed

We are looking for ushers to greet people at the door, hand out bulletins, in addition to helping with lighting and extinguishing candles and helping with offering collection.

Lectors Needed

We are currently looking for lectors to read scripture during worship service.

Altar Flowers

Provide the altar flowers on a Sunday in honor, memory of someone or in celebration of something special.

Social Hour

We are currently in need of hosts to put out foods and make the coffee for fellowship time after worship.

In October....

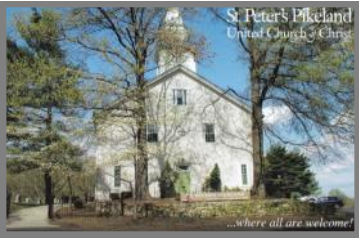
1st World Communion Sunday

8th: Room to Read Sunday

15th: Harvest Home Sunday

29th: CROP Walk after worship





Our Prayer List

Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers:

Church Staff

Rev. Douglas Hanson,
Pastor
Kat Bowman,
Director of Music and Organist
Jill Cook,
Church Secretary
Deborah Wetty,
Nursery Attendant
Debbie Wolk,
Bookkeeper
Wayne Freese
Cemetery Manager

Church Officers 2023

President of Congregation –
Pete Warner

Secretary of Congregation –
Kathleen Wachsmuth

President of Consistory –
Jim Phillips

Secretary of Consistory –
Michelle Case

Elders

Kathleen Wachsmuth
Deb Wetty

Deacons

Diane Campbell,
Herman Nieuwenhuizen,
Jim Phillips

Trustees

Fred Wookey III- Chair
Bob McClimon, Ray Perry,
Peter Wilson

Allison Lockhart, sister of Rev. McLemore
Andrea Lafleur
Angie Schlessman
Annamae Moore
Anthony Didesidero, friend of Anne Breiling
Barbara Broyles, friend of the Wachsmuths
Barbara Shivers
Caitie Blazic and baby Nicholas, friend of Judy Smythe
Carol Meyer
Cathy Moffa, friend of Don and Gwen Davidson
Charlie Fishman, Pete Warner's Nephew and Godson
Chris Webb, son of a friend of Lynn Mailey
Daniel Meyer serving in the US Army stationed in Poland
Daniel Mulcahy, friend of Harlows
Debbie Rittenhouse, mother-in-law of Mitchell Warner
Donna Rhodes, Gail Phillips' sister
Ernie Coccia, Father of Deb Wetty
Guinevere, granddaughter of friend of Dee McClimon
Gwen Davidson
Heidi Kieffer, daughter of Eric Johnson's cousin
Ian Charles Harmon, the Booraem's grandson
Jashown Banner, former student of Jackie Warner
Jennifer Osborne
JoAnn Warshaw-Godmother to Alyssa Menkins
Kyle Dewees, friend of the Cornogs and Cooks
Laura Dick
Lia Sawyer, friend of Cherri Romano
Lisa, cousin of Eric Johnson
Mary Andersen, friend of the McCarthys
Mia Nordhoff
Pattie and Charlie Freeman, friends of the Bowman's
Patrick, friend of Dee McClimon
Patty English
Richard, friend of Dee McClimon
Rick Cassidy, friend of the Davidsons
Sally Kramer, Cherri Romano's sister
Sally Mehrens, sister of Lynn Mailey
Sharon Divis, daughter of Judy Smythe
Stan, Bob McClimon's cousin
Sue McVay, friend of Mary Jo Pandjak
Sylvia Houff, Kathleen Wachsmuth's sister
Tara Cantello, friend of Denise Harlow