

The Fisherman



St. Peter Lutheran Church

3751 Estero Blvd. E.L.C.A.
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931
Phone: 239-463-4251

Prayerfully Prepared Just For YOU!

DECEMBER • 2011



“But you,
Bethlehem...
out of you
will come
a ruler who
will be the
shepherd
of my people
Israel.”

MATTHEW 2:6



WELCOME!

The Fisherman Newsletter comes to you on a timely, regular basis with information, spiritual helps, and interesting news items about YOU and your church. If you have something notable to share, you need only **submit it by the 10th of each month** for consideration. If you have not received *The Fisherman* mailed to your home, and would like to be included on our mailing list, please contact the church office. Extra copies are available in the narthex while supplies last.

Want to help out with the mailing costs of *The Fisherman*? You have the opportunity to **DEDICATE** a mailing of a monthly issue **IN MEMORY OF** or **IN HONOR OF** someone special, or as a **SPECIAL GIFT**. Our approximate cost for mailing *The Fisherman* is \$ 65.00 monthly. Your gift toward any portion of this cost is much appreciated! Let us know today if you are interested in giving to this ministry.

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ELCA • EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

3751 Estero Blvd. • Ft. Myers Beach, FL 33931 Phone: 239/463-4251
Fax: 239/463-4462 E-mail: Stpeterfmb@aol.com WEB: www.stpeterfmb.com



OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
9:00 am – 2:00 pm

STAFF

Pastor Lorrie Davison
Susan Frantz, Office Administrator (email: Susanstpeter@AOL.com)
H. G. Fisher, Director of Music/Organist
Shirley Roe, Artist-in-Residence/Pianist



Thoughts from Pastor

In a New Beginning...

How odd it may seem to those who don't belong to Christ and his Church that our month of December is not the ending of a year, but the beginning of a new one.

The Season of Advent brings us to another new beginning as it marks the four weeks that lead us once again to Christmas.

These four weeks lead us to the time when we remember Jesus Christ's first coming – the world-changing time of his Incarnation. For, this was the time that God came to earth in the being of his only Son... to be one of us, to walk among us, and to begin to show us, through Jesus, who the God of the universe truly is. And when Jesus departed this life after he died and was buried, raised up in the Resurrection, and had ascended into heaven once again... he had returned us to God and forgiven our sins, and he had redirected humanity anew... in another beginning.

Yet in this reminder of his divine, yet human presence... we find ourselves actually in between Christ's two comings. As we try to follow him and let him change us, we await the consummation of this age and the promise of eternal things to come. We await the coming of Christ who "will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also" (*John 14:3*).

Through God's sending of the Holy Spirit to live within us at our Baptism, to call us to God and to gather us together as God's people, we are never far from another new beginning as we are met and changed by Jesus Christ.

And through him, in him, and with him ... we are changed time after time after time. Not only are we changed in our Baptism when we are washed

clean of sin and made right with God, but we are continuously renewed in our sacrament of Holy Communion in Christ's holy meal as we worship, praise, and receive him.

Our two sacraments each awaken us in a different way – to become a part of Christ and to renew us in Christ -- so we are able to grow deeper and deeper in knowing Christ.

In our busy world where the time of Advent – the coming of Christ – is filled with the stresses of our secular world, we will be filled even more by the presence of Christ through our ritual of Holy Communion.

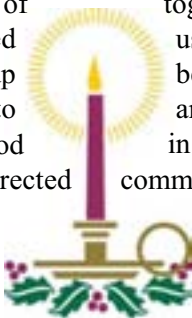
During Advent, we will receive Holy Communion at each worship experience we have together as the Holy Spirit calls us and gathers us together to be a family of God. What better way can we be renewed and celebrate another new beginning than to receive Christ in his holy meal and to be together in community discerning our body of Christ?

This month of December holds great promise to strengthen us for our life's journey with Christ. For the moments of worship in December we will "remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast."ⁱ During this Advent we will receive a foretaste of the feast to come as we give thanks and receive the gift of our Savior and Lord.

May God's grace and peace fill your hearts at this most humble time of year. Amen.

Pastor Lorrie

ⁱ Philip H. Pfatteicher and Carlos R. Messerli, *Manual on the Liturgy*, Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis, MN: 1979, p.237.





Embark on Your Journey of Generosity

Our journey of generosity is an adventure, measured not in miles, but in personal transformation and growth. Sometimes smooth sailing, sometimes uncharted waters – but always a course that deepens our faith and relationship with God.

LOVE with a Capital L ...

It is an old Chinese custom that near the end of the year a man would make every effort to pay all of his past debts in order that he might begin the new year with a clean slate, owing no one. To us, “near the end of the year” means the Christmas season, and it more often than not is a time of running up new bills rather than paying old ones. We buy toys for the children, gifts for friends and relatives. We give to those we love to express our love, on the birthday of the one who taught us what love is all about. This is the principle involved. But, too often, gift-giving becomes an end in itself, a custom without meaning, a distraction, a Santa Claus thing, and we lose sight of Love with a capital L. We forget about God!

All year we have given out of a feeling of love and gratitude. The end of the year is an excellent time to reappraise our giving to God. Why not adopt the old Chinese custom? Let us assume our obligation to repay God, in the light of all that God has given us, and, in the spirit of our Lord’s birthday, let us see what gift of self we can give out of love.

In this season of giving, we should take time to reappraise what we have offered God this year. Let’s use tithing as a measure, an acceptable standard, and determine now if our gift of love is worthy of us.

Your Stewardship Committee

“Now, our God, we give you thanks... Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.” 1 Chronicles 29:13a, 14

Here's What's News!



LOSSES in the FOLD

On October 28, 2011 long-time St. Peter member, **EDNA WATSON** (92), passed into the Church Triumphant. Edna and her husband, Richard, lived and worked many years in Detroit, then St. Clair Shores, Michigan before eventually moving to the Privateer Condominiums on Ft. Myers Beach. Following Richard's death, Edna moved to Cypress Cove to the independent living apartments, moving as needed to The Inn at Cypress Cove, and finally to The Lodge. Pastor Lorrie conducted a memorial service at Cypress Cove on November 4 for gathered family and friends. Please pray for the Watson family during this season of loss.

We are saddened to report that **RALPH MAY**, brother of St. Peter member *Shirley Hyssong*, passed away recently. Our hearts go out to Shirley and their family, as we hold them up to our Lord for comfort during this difficult time.

Thank You!

St. Peter Lutheran Church is very grateful for the generosity of the following friends, who very kindly contributed funds to produce and mail *The Fisherman* newsletter:



Basil & Phyllis Morrison

Church Council

Meeting Highlights • Nov. 10, 2011

Following are **HIGHLIGHTS** of actions taken at Council Meeting. Final Minutes will be read and approved at the next monthly Council meeting, then posted on the narthex bulletin board.

Council voted to accept the recommendations made by the Mutual Ministry Committee with a few minor changes.

Council also approved to accept the draft budget presented pending final approval of the Finance Committee. This budget will be presented for acceptance by the congregation at the annual anniversary meeting and dinner.

A bid from Colonial Roofing was received to repair the roof. Two other estimates will be obtained before proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristi Schoenberg
Council Secretary

NOTICE! CONGREGATIONAL MEETING and 43rd Anniversary DINNER! SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4



St. Peter will celebrate 43 Years of Ministry at our Annual Anniversary Dinner in Lau Hall following 10:30 a.m. worship on December 4. After dinner, there will be a Congregational Meeting and the Proposed Budget for 2012, as approved by church council, will be submitted to the voting body for acceptance.

From your Music Director—H.G. Fisher



The Twelve Days of Christmas: Did You Know?

People often think of the Twelve Days of Christmas as the days preceding Christmas. Actually, Christmas is a season of the Church Year that lasts from December 25 through January 6, the Day of

Epiphany, when the church celebrates the revelation of Christ as the light of the world and recalls the journey of the Magi, the three Wise Men.

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not allowed to practice their faith openly. During this era someone wrote “The Twelve Days of Christmas” as a kind of secret catechism that could be sung in public without risk of persecution. The song has two levels of interpretation: The surface meaning, plus a hidden meaning known only to members of the church. Each element in the carol is a code word for a religious reality.

1. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ.
2. The two turtledoves are the Old and New Testaments.
3. Three French hens stand for faith, hope and love.
4. The four calling birds are the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
5. The five golden rings recall the Torah, or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.

6. The six geese a-laying stand for the six days of creation.
7. Seven swans a-swimming represent the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership and Mercy.
8. The eight maids a-milking are the eight Beatitudes.
9. Nine ladies dancing are the nine Fruit of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control.
10. The ten lords a-leaping are the Ten Commandments.
11. Eleven pipers piping stand for the eleven faithful disciples.
12. Twelve drummers drumming symbolize the twelve points of belief in the Apostles’ Creed.

There you have it... the HIDDEN meaning of “The Twelve Days of Christmas,” and the secret behind the song.

I hope and pray that you will find this as a “New/Old Meaning” to the season and that you and your loved ones will have a very blessed Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year.

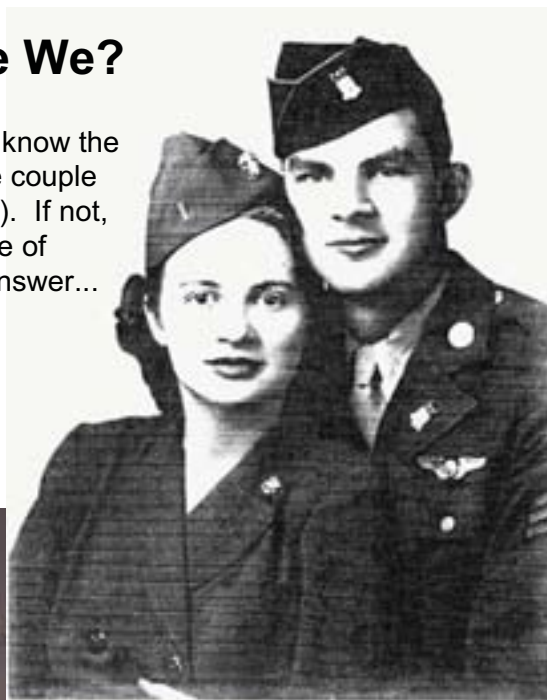
H. G. Fisher

Join us this Wednesday for Choir Rehearsal at 6:00 p.m. in Lau Hall. If you have questions or interest, please call H. G. Fisher, Jr., Organist and Choir Director at 566-1416 or the church office at 463-4251.

**From
our
Family
PHOTO
ALBUM**

Who Are We?

Lots of you may already know the identify of the handsome couple pictured in 1945 (at right). If not, keep reading in this issue of *The Fisherman* for the answer... and more!



**The St. Peter Choir,
with Music
Director/Organist
H.G. Fisher Jr., and
Artist-in-Residence
Shirley Roe.**

**Our St. Peter Sunday School,
planning and working on...
various projects!**



**From our Family
PHOTO ALBUM**



“The ARK” sets sail from the St. Peter Sunday School Room – their Summer/Fall project.



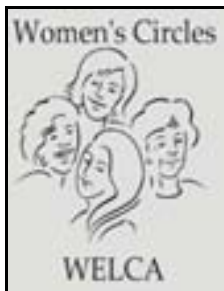
St. Peter Sunday School youngsters working hard.



Ready to Ark embark!

Sunday School teacher Joy Booth oversees Ark construction.





St. Peter's Women of the ELCA

Anne Myrtle Circle Meeting & Christmas LUNCHEON

All ladies of the congregation are invited to share in the fun and fellowship of meeting on **Wednesday, December 14 at 9:30 a.m.** in Lau Hall for Bible study and a meeting. Christmas Luncheon will follow (significant others are invited!). Please call Jana Clevenger for reservations.

Happening This Month

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 4

Collection for AIDS Family Assistance through "Take a Child to Lunch"

The St. Peter WELCA ladies will collect your gifts today of the ready-to-eat food items for children of families afflicted with AIDS, so they will have enough to eat while they're on school holiday break. *Thrivent Financial for Lutherans* will assist with this project through their "Care in Community" program. (See separate article this issue of *The Fisherman* for details on how we can help these families through the holidays).

ALSO TODAY • Christmas Stockings - Today is the last day to receive your donations of toys and gifts for children's Christmas stockings. The Salvation Army terminated their stocking project for 2011, so instead, we have redirected our giving to the Chamber of Commerce-sponsored Ft. Myers Beach "Spirit of Christmas" drive for needy Beach children. Stockings will be delivered by Santa on a fire truck – very exciting for the children. See separate article this issue of *The Fisherman* for details on this fun project!

MONDAYS • DECEMBER 5TH & 12TH

YOU can be a St. Peter "Elf" when you join in to help stuff Christmas stockings with all your generous donations of gifts and surprises! Also enjoy a delicious brunch with the Elves! The fun begins at 8:00 am in Lau Hall.

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 11

Nations Association – The 2nd Sunday of each month is "Nations Sunday," when a CASH collection is taken to benefit this vital local ministry which provides **food, clothing, educational** opportunities, medical assistance and much more for the homeless and needy in the greater Ft. Myers area.

ALSO TODAY is the DEADLINE to order living **Poinsettia Plants** to celebrate the birth of Christ and to decorate our St. Peter Christmas altar. Please see separate article with order form in this issue of *The Fisherman*.

MONDAY • DECEMBER 19 Come help **PACK LUNCHES** for the **AIDS Family Assistance** "Take a Child to Lunch" project (See note for Sunday, December 4).

Looking Ahead...

SUNDAY • JANUARY 1

Collection of your CASH gifts to provide **HEALTH KITS**, an assemblage of personal hygiene items to be sent to *Lutheran World Relief* for distribution to the needy, worldwide. Separate article this issue of *The Fisherman* has full details!

WEDNESDAY • JANUARY 11 **Anne Myrtle Circle** Bible study, business meeting and refreshments. Begins 9:30 am in Lau Hall. All ladies are invited for this time of fun and fellowship!

SUNDAY • JANUARY 29 SOAP SUNDAY – Collection of your donations of any size NEW bars of SOAP, (cash donations also gladly accepted!) For distribution worldwide by *Lutheran World Relief*. Watch for more details in the January issue of *The Fisherman*.

"...whatever you did for one of the **least of these**...you did for me." Matthew 25:40.

Questions? Call Diane Allen.

This 'N That ...



Your USED PRINTER CARTRIDGES Buy St. Peter OFFICE SUPPLIES!

St. Peter has been making use of an exchange program through some of the major name-brand office supply stores, which allows St. Peter to redeem used computer printer cartridges for office supplies! If you use a computer printer,

PLEASE SAVE YOUR EMPTY PRINTER INK CARTRIDGES FOR ST. PETER TO REDEEM FOR OFFICE SUPPLIES!

There is a container in the narthex for your donated used cartridges. Any brand, and any size cartridges are accepted. Thanks for helping! Now, What has been the result of the empty "Ink Cartridge" program? LOOK BELOW!



WOW! Look at all these OFFICE SUPPLIES we "bought" in November (for FREE!) in trade for your old, used printer cartridges! These would have cost \$223.38, without your cartridges. THANK YOU and please keep bringing in those cartridges! Questions? Call Bob & Georgiann Stenerson.

CALLING ALL LADIES!

You are invited to attend:

Bible Study led by Pastor Lorrie Davison

Wednesday • January 11, 2012 • 9:30
am
Lau Hall – St. Peter Lutheran Church

No need to dress up or to be a student of the Bible – just come, join us for a cup of coffee or tea and enjoy the fellowship and an interesting study of the Bible led by Pastor Lorrie. We hope to see you each month; bring a friend, no reservations required!

We're on the WEB... in COLOR!!



Check out our St. Peter
Website: www.StPeterFMB.com

You'll find lots of good info and the current newsletter, *The Fisherman* in COLOR! We can even notify you by email when the next issue is online! Many thanks to our "Webmaster" Charles Hester for his countless hours in setting this up and maintaining it for us!

Fun Thoughts...

Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says, 'In case of emergency, notify:' I put 'DOCTOR.'

If you're going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.

I used to be indecisive... now, I'm not so sure.

Take a Child to LUNCH!



**Help the
CHILDREN**

YOU Can Help Provide Lunches for Children of AIDS/HIV Families

Many children whose parents are assisted by the McGregor HIV/AIDS Clinic (about 100 families) are at home during the school Christmas break, and without school lunches, they have a pressing need for food items which they can prepare without adult supervision. In the spirit of the Christ of Christmas, our St. Peter Women of the ELCA need your help to provide simple food items for these children.

Listed below are suggested easy food items for the children to prepare at home. **Please note** that all listed foods are non-perishable, since the AIDS pantry has no refrigeration.

**Your Loving Gifts will lighten the burden for these families.
Donations may be placed in the Shopping Cart
Anytime through SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4.**

Easy-Mac (macaroni & cheese)
Peanut Butter
Jelly or Jam
Crackers & Snack Crackers
Canned Tuna
Canned Soups
Puddings / Applesauce

Canned Spaghetti
Canned Stew
Canned Chili
Cereal
Pop Tarts
Ramen Noodles
Canned Fruit

**Bring Any
Easy-To-Fix Lunch or
Breakfast Product!**

**Come & Help
"PACK LUNCHES" on
Monday December 19
at 8:00 AM in Lau Hall.
Brunch provided!**

Cash Donations Are Gladly Accepted!

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans "Care in Community" will contribute MATCHING FUNDS for your CASH donations!

Please make Checks payable to: **St. Peter Lutheran Church**
and indicate on memo line: **AIDS**

Questions? Call Pat Modafari.

Ministry Through *The Enduring Gift Fund*

Your house and your kingdom will endure forever...

2 Samuel 7:16



Gift Fund, your church council was able to select six (6) local Christian ministries to receive a grant of \$ 1,000.00 each, in appreciation of their work in Christ's name in our community of faith. This year's recipients are familiar to many of us, in that we have helped them in the past. The grants were actually "awarded" in April, 2011, and the recipients were scheduled to receive their award certificate and briefly explain about their ministry, during worship services here at St. Peter spanning from October 31 through December 4, 2011. The recipients are:

Harvest Time Ministries – Bonita Springs, FL

Rev. Gerry (Geraldine) Franck, founder and President, and Pastor Carlos Lizano, Chaplain. Harvest Time Ministries is the only organization in the Bonita Springs area which distributes food, clothing, Bibles, toiletries, baby food, diapers, appliances, blankets, and other life necessities to the farmworker camps on a regular, ongoing basis. School supplies are provided for the five area schools to distribute to the needy children. With each visit to the farmworker camps, a message from the Word of God is given, with an opportunity for the people to commit (or recommit) their lives to the Lord, prayer when

We are delighted to announce that from the dividends and interest earned this year in our Enduring

Gift Fund,

needed, referral for medical care, etc. Every other Saturday, over 135 full bags of food are distributed to families in need.

Immokalee Friendship House • St. Matthew's House – Immokalee, FL

Lisa Ellison, representative. Since its inception in 1987, Immokalee Friendship House has provided meals, clothing and shelter to thousands of individuals in greater Collier County. The shelter is nearly always at capacity, quite often including families with young children. Abused women and children, migrant farmworkers, convalescents, people fighting addiction, and families that recently suffered a loss of income all come through their doors. In October, 2008, Immokalee Friendship House merged with St. Matthew's House, allowing improvements to be made to the facility and further outreach to the community.

Grace Place for Children and Families – Golden Gate City (Naples), FL

Rev. Stephanie Munz Campbell, Executive Director. Grace Place is a faith-based, non-profit, neighborhood center serving at-risk children and impoverished families, witnessing to God's love and grace by providing after-school and summer, early childhood, literacy, and youth development programs.

God's Table – Fort Myers Beach, FL

Joy Booth, representative. God's Table is an outreach program to the homeless, needy, disenfranchised of Ft. Myers Beach island community. This faith-based, non-profit, neighborhood ministry provides food, clothing, showers, medical attention and other services.

(Continues Next Page)

Ministry Through *The Enduring Gift Fund* (Continued)

God's Table (Continued) Supported by the Beach Ministerial Association and presently administered at Chapel by the Sea Presbyterian Church, the ministry practices the teaching of Jesus to feed, clothe, visit and shelter the "least of these." Over 100 volunteers have served over 150 persons in need each year, bettering the lives of the dependents and the lives of the volunteers.

The farm allows ECHO to provide resources for missionaries and agricultural workers in over 190 countries, through innovative ideas, information, agricultural training and seeds. By networking with community leaders and missionaries in developing countries, ECHO seeks to find agricultural solutions for families growing food under difficult conditions.

The Gabriel House – Fort Myers, FL

A home for abandoned, displaced and unwanted medically needy children. Ed and Annie Ravish have opened wide their home and hearts to welcome these children – children with problems like hydrocephalus, deafness, blindness, missing limbs, severe burns, down syndrome, heart surgery, crack cocaine addiction, cerebral palsy, and other serious illnesses. With the help of the local medical community, their physical problems are treated, and with Christ's love while they live at The Gabriel House, they are adopted into loving homes throughout the U.S. Gabriel House has helped over 170 children through medical treatment and adoption, and receives no government tax funding.

Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization (ECHO) – North Ft. Myers, FL

The mission and motto of ECHO is: "To bring glory to God and a blessing to mankind by using science and technology to help the poor." ECHO is a non-profit, inter-denominational Christian organization located on a demonstration farm in North Ft. Myers, Florida.

Your house and your kingdom will endure forever...

2 Samuel 7:16



About the ENDURING GIFT FUND

On July 30, 1998, St. Peter Lutheran Church resolved to create an "Enduring Gift Fund," the interest income of which would be given out to local

Christian ministries, as determined by the Church Council.

Did you know that your gifts to the *Enduring Gift Fund* (birthday cards, and otherwise) are never really spent? Instead, these gifts are prudently invested and only their interest and dividends are used for the outreach ministry of St. Peter Lutheran Church! That means that your gifts *continue* giving to our Lord's work – year after year.

Your gifts to the *St. Peter Enduring Gift Fund* help local ministries in their effort to make Christ known, in very real and loving ways, in our area. You may wish to consider giving as a part of your Benevolent giving, as a Commemorative Gift in honor of your birthday, or in memory of loved ones. Checks may be made payable to: **St. Peter Lutheran Church**, and indicate on the memo line: "*Enduring Gift Fund.*"

12/1/11

Our St. Peter Women of the ELCA ask for
YOUR Cash Donations
To Provide **HEALTH KITS**



through **JANUARY 1**

11/22/11

Clean hands, good grooming, bright and shining smiles -- YOUR Cash Gifts can help to provide all of these, with **HEALTH KITS!**

Each **HEALTH KIT**, which will be assembled by the Women of the ELCA and Monday Morning Work Crew helpers, will contain the following:

- ONE Hand Towel
- ONE Washcloth
- ONE Bath-Size Bar of any brand SOAP
- ONE Toothbrush
- ONE Comb
- ONE NAIL CLIPPER with file attached
- SIX Band-Aids (preferably 1/2" to 3/4" size)



All smaller items are wrapped in the towel and tied securely with yarn or ribbon.

The Health Kits will be assembled and sent to **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF** for distribution.

Come JOIN the FUN of
Assembling the HEALTH KITS
on MONDAY • JANUARY 23
at 8:00 AM in Lau Hall!

Your donations can provide a HEALTHIER, HAPPIER WORLD!

ST. Peter WELCA encourage CASH DONATIONS so they can purchase Health Kit items at wholesale and/or bulk prices to **stretch those dollars as far as possible!**

Checks may be made payable to:
St. Peter Lutheran Church
and indicate on Memo Line: "HEALTH KITS."

MORE of This 'N MORE of That

You Are Invited to a CHRISTMAS FEAST!

Have you made plans for Christmas dinner yet?



Several years ago in the middle of Sam's Club, the Luensers and the Burrs held an impromptu meeting. It was agreed that Christmas dinner should be shared with family – and we didn't have "family" near at hand! Voila! The very first St. Peter Christmas dinner was planned especially for others connected to the church family who were in similar circumstances.

Join the St. Peter Family for Dinner on Christmas Day at noontime

(following the 10:30 am church service.) From year to year, the numbers have ranged from a mere handful to thirty or more. Every year, both the wide-ranging conversations and the delicious foods at hand nourish both body and spirit of the gathered St. Peter Christmas family.

Watch for a sign-up sheet to appear in the Narthex. Plan to bring a favorite dish that you would like to share. (Meats will be provided.) Your St. Peter family would love to have you join us!

Pastor - Lorrie Davison

**Music Director/
Organist** -

H.G. Fisher, Jr.

**Artist-in-Residence/
Pianist** - Shirley Roe

Office Administrator -
Susan Frantz

Christmas Greetings
from your

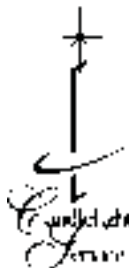


Heading SOUTH?

Let us know your current address by completing a "Where Are You?" form, available in the church narthex, or call the church office at (239) 463-4251 to let us know you're here! Your mail will find you, and we'll save the cost of returned postage fees. Thanks for helping!



Season Worship Schedule



**Christmas EVE •
Saturday • December 24**

7:30 pm- Candlelight Worship
with Holy Communion

10:30pm-Candlelight Worship
with Holy Communion

Christmas DAY • Sunday • December 25
10:30 am - Worship with Holy Communion

12:00 noon - CHRISTMAS DINNER
with the St. Peter Family!
(See separate article this page)

• JANUARY 2012 •

January 7, 2012 through April 7:

Saturdays • Worship at 5:30 pm
Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd weekends

CHRISTMAS Needs Fulfilled, NEW Needs to FILL!!



St. Peter Lutheran Church is focused on FILLING Christmas Stockings for needy children on Ft. Myers Beach! The Women of the ELCA are seeking your donations of toys and surprises!

11/1/11

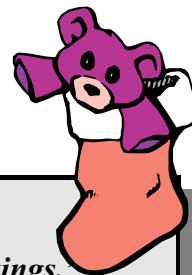
YOU can be the hands of Jesus this Christmas to a needy child in our community! Bring your donated items to church ANYTIME by DECEMBER 4TH.

NEW Suggested items for your Christmas List, for children ages 2-14:

Small Cars & Trucks
Hair Barrettes-Ribbons & Bows
Novelty Socks for all ages
Screen-printed T Shirts
Small Games
Personal Diary
Socks
Baseballs
Candles
Rubik Cubes



Nail Polish (red and darks)
Girl's Jewelry, Cosmetics
Keychains
Hair Brush, Comb, Mirror
Decorated T-Shirts
Pocket Calculators
Small Flashlights
Baseball Caps
Sunglasses
Lip Balms
Yo-Yos



Monetary Donations gladly accepted – and WELCA will shop for you! Please Make Checks Payable to: “ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH” and indicate “*Stockings*.”



Anything to bring a smile to a child's face!

Remember - please do NOT bring perishable items (such as candy).

On MONDAYS, DECEMBER 5th & 12th at 8:00 am in Lau Hall, everyone is invited to **BE an ELF** and **help stuff the stockings**, which is almost the best part of this whole project – knowing, as you select each item for the stocking in your hand, that this will bring pure joy to a child at Christmastime this year!

Ministry Opportunities at St. Peter!

√ Check which Ministry Opportunity listed below you would like to be a part of!

Please sign your name, then you may either give this to Pastor or place it in the offering plate.

Ministry Opportunities

- PRAYER FELLOWSHIP** – This will be a Prayer Group that will gather and pray together for those on our Prayer List, once or twice each month.
- VISITATION TEAM** – Members will work in pairs to assist the pastor in visiting those at home or in the hospital, as the situations arise. Training will be provided. (This is not to be confused with the teams of Eucharistic Ministers who take home Holy Communion to those in need.)
- CARE CALLING TEAM** – Members will assist in calling on the telephone those who are absent from worship to check if they have any needs.

My Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

It's ME!



If you guessed the identity of the "Who Are We?" photo girl to be **Mary Lou Wright**, you were 100% right!

The "Who Are We?" photo is of Mary Lou and Max on their wedding day, February 9, 1945. Check out Mary Lou (left) on Veterans Day, November 11th, wearing the same WWII Navy Nurse Corps uniform cap, with medals, that she wore in her wedding picture...66 years ago!

Max and Mary Lou Wright – Veterans, too!

By *Fisherman* Correspondent - Jana Clevenger

When Mary Louise (aka Mary Lou) Gould was 15 years old she met Ronald Maxwell Wright at the basement door of her house in Davenport, Iowa. Max wanted to work with Mary Lou's father in the heating business. Max remembered Mary Lou wearing a red sweater (worn backwards as that was the fad at the time), red plaid skirt, white anklets and saddle oxford shoes. He KNEW she was the one he wanted to spend his life with... and the rest is history.

Mary Lou's older sister, Edna, was very protective and Mary Lou and Max were allowed to double-date with her older brother, Ernie, and now sister-in-law, Dorothy.

Mary Lou graduated from St. Luke's Hospital in Davenport, Iowa as a registered nurse. Her two older brothers were in the service. Ed was

in Germany and was a POW (and later released) and Ernie was in France. Mary Lou decided she needed to do her part in serving her country. Without telling her family, she was commissioned in the Navy Nurse Corps and was assigned to the hospital at the boot camp at Farrogant, Idaho. She worked in the Scarlet Fever ward, psych ward, and eventually the German POW ward.

Max was working for Sears, in sales, at the time he was drafted in 1939 into the Army. He was first stationed in Missouri and then stationed at Maxwell Field in Montgomery, Alabama. He and Mary Lou had not seen each other for two years, but he wrote anyway.

Max was enlisted and Mary Lou was an officer, which might have

Continues Next Page... →

Max and Mary Lou Wright – Veterans, too!

By *Fisherman* Correspondent - Jana Clevenger

Continued from Previous Page

caused some problems. Not to be deterred, Max wrote and proposed to Mary Lou. A little apprehensive, Mary Lou asked her mother, Laretta, to accompany her to see Max in Montgomery. Max made all the arrangements for their wedding. Mary Lou arrived by train at 10 a.m. February 9, 1945 and they were married that afternoon in the Presbyterian manse in front of the fireplace. Laretta returned home and Max and Mary Lou spent five days together before she returned to Idaho. On their wedding night they watched a tornado pass through Montgomery.

Shortly after her return to Idaho, Mary Lou received orders to go to the Marshall Islands. She was not allowed, to go because she was married. Several of her nurse shipmates made the trip and were killed in Japanese bombing shortly after their arrival. Mary Lou always said that “Max had saved her life.” It took the military until December 1945 to process her discharge.

Mary Lou and Max (now both discharged from the service) bought a house and moved to 1221 E. Locust Street, Davenport, Iowa in December 1945, and Max returned to work for Sears. They had two children, Candy and Randy. They made one move with Sears to Villa Park, Illinois, in 1948. Max worked at the corporate headquarters in Chicago and they never moved with Sears again. The Sears Tower in downtown Chicago was built just before Max retired with 37 years.

Max and Mary Lou started coming to Florida about 1952. Through the years they visited different areas of the state before deciding to settle on Fort Myers Beach in their retirement years. They moved into

Leonardo Arms condominium on their wedding anniversary (February 9th) in 1976, and began attending St. Peter Lutheran Church on the beach.

On June 11, 2011, Ronald Maxwell Wright passed into the Church Triumphant. He implemented the preservation of our St. Peter historical documentation. He also served in many varied tasks at the church, including multiple terms on Church Council; he was instrumental in the planning and building of our new Sanctuary building; he was a verger (money counter), and a Sunday School teacher; he served on the Call Committee for calling Pastor Tom Snapp. Max is a huge part of the heart of St. Peter Lutheran Church, and he is very much missed by all.

Mary Lou implemented the bi-yearly community health screenings held at St. Peter, and helped to research the possibility of a parish nurse here; she has always worked hard on numerous projects at Monday work days; she and Max taught children’s Sunday School together, often taking them on outings; she served on the Cradle Roll, has worked tirelessly for ministry outreach projects of the Women of the ELCA (WELCA) and has served on many church committees. We all love her infectious smile! She currently resides at Cypress Cove, Ft. Myers.

We have all been so blessed to have had Max and to have Mary Lou in our lives.

Help us Decorate the ALTAR for *Christmas*

This year on **Christmas Eve** and **Christmas Day** our St. Peter altar will be surrounded with beautiful, living **POINSETTIA PLANTS** to celebrate the birth of Christ!



*Please donate one or more
plants for the Altar.*

Cost is \$10 per plant.

Any money over cost will be given to the St. Peter quilt-sewing group.

You may take your plant home with you anytime after Christmas Day.



ORDER FORM

Please complete THIS FORM and return it **with your payment.**
Please make Checks Payable to: **ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH**
Memo Line: **POINSETTIAS**

DEADLINE for your Order is: **Sunday • DECEMBER 11th**

NAME: _____

NUMBER OF PLANTS: _____ AMOUNT PAID: \$ _____

In MEMORY of: _____

In HONOR of: _____

Thank You! 10/19/11

YOU Can Help *Ring in Christmas Cheer!*



The Salvation Army needs volunteers!



PUBLIX Supermarket here on

Ft. Myers Beach is just one of a group of merchants willing to let Salvation Army set up their familiar Red Kettles at their store entrances.

“You will always have the poor among you . . .”

Be a Bell Ringer!

November 18th – December 24th

Monday through Friday

9:00 am-8:00 pm (2-hour shifts)

Saturday

8:00 am- 8:00 pm

YOU CHOOSE your:

- Location
- Date
- Time

- Smiling Faces
- Singers
- Musicians

Are ENCOURAGED!

Choose a Kettle location and recruit your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to ring bells with you

These sobering words from Scripture are indeed timeless. You need only look as far as your city to see that the poor are in our midst –

hungry children... homeless families... neighbors who have lost hope that life will ever get better. This is the very reason that The Salvation Army exists today.

Facts About The Salvation Army

90¢ of every dollar raised by the Lee, Hendry, Glades Counties Command is used to sustain life-changing programs that bring hope to hurting souls. The Salvation Army assists more than 33 million individuals throughout the year in the United States – over 6 million of those during the holiday season alone.



CALL VALERIE at (239) 278-1551 Ext. 210

TODAY to Reserve Your Preferred Kettle Time & Location.

HERE on **JANUARY 1st**—

Spirited

On **JANUARY 1, 2012** during **10:30 a.m. worship, St. Peter** will host daily columnist/ humorist, Jonathan Richard Cring and artist/musician Janet Clazzy, a time of music and monologue, including comedic and inspirational essays from Mr. Cring's national daily column with original musical tunes played by Ms. Clazzy on the oboe and WX-5 Wind Machine.

Mr. Cring is the author of eleven titles, including *I'M the legend of the son of man, 20 Other Reasons to Kiss a Frog, Jesonian, and The Gospel According to Common Sense*. He is the recipient of the Best Screenplay Award at the Top Ten Films in America, and his daily insights can be read at www.jonathots.com.

“We take an hour to bring you music, humor, and some fresh topical ideas about life in these United States and the ways of being human,” Mr. Cring shares. “The program is a non-stop, inter-generational explosion of music, spirit and humor, helping us to remember who we are and why we would like to do that better. You end up with that wonderful by-product of good cheer.”

Even though Ms. Clazzy has played oboe in orchestras for thirty years from coast to coast, she is a musical original, drawing from all the great American musical styles and often proclaimed to be “the female Kenny G.” “I have this fabulous instrument called the WX-5 Wind Machine which gives me 250 sounds at my fingertips,” she says. “We call the music clazzy music—the spirit of classical with the soul of jazz—pop minded. But it's like all great music. If Mr. Cring plays gospel, I pull out the harmonica. If he sings a ballad, I may slide in a little cello.” Ms. Clazzy was also the founder of a pops orchestra and the first female conductor in the state of Tennessee.

FUN FACTS

- Janet Clazzy has a Masters in Music from Northwestern University and was the first female conductor in the state of Tennessee,



- Jonathan Cring is the author of *The Gospel According to Common Sense*.

- Jonathan Richard Cring has appeared on the *Grand Ole' Opry*.

- Janet Clazzy writes music for movies.

- Jonathan Cring's first group, *Soul Purpose*, was a warm-up act for *Andre Crouch and the Disciples*.

- Janet Clazzy plays the oboe, English horn and the WX-5 Wind Machine, a horn that has the sounds of 250 instruments.

- Jonathan Cring worked for many years with two great songwriters—Dottie Rambo (*He Looked Beyond My Fault and Saw My Need*) and Marijohn Wilkin (*One Day at a Time*)

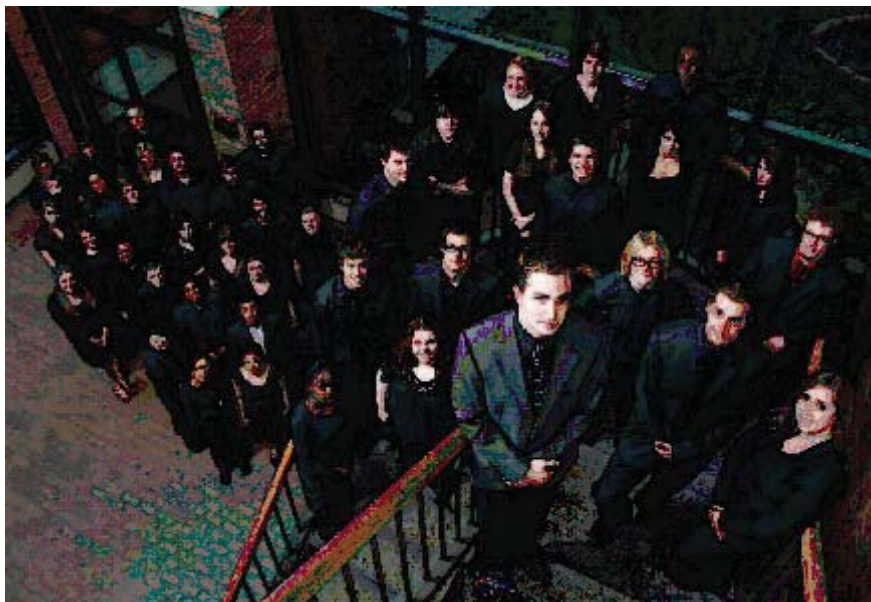
- Janet Clazzy played oboe with the Chicago Symphony at Carnegie Hall.

- Jonathan Cring is the winner of the *Best Screenplay* at the *Top Ten Films in America* for his comedy, *Berne*. His movies have won awards at 32 film festivals

- Jonathan Cring is the playwright and composer of *Mountain* – the Sermon on the Mount set to music – an Off-Broadway show recently revived.

- *Spirited* has appeared in over 1,200 United Methodist churches and over 1,000 ELCA Lutherans.

CONCERT COMING!



SUNDAY • JANUARY 8, 2012 • 2:00 PM
FREE at *TIMES SQUARE!*

St. Peter Lutheran Church of Fort Myers Beach invites everyone in the community to a **FREE CONCERT** to be performed by the world-famous **AUGSBURG COLLEGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** on Sunday, January 8, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at Times Square.

Numbering about 50 musicians, these young people from Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minnesota, will present 1½ - 2 hours of fine music at Lynn Hall Park, in Times Square. Chairs will be set up for the performers, and some chairs for audience members, although the audience is encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs. Southwest Florida is just one of many stops for the Orchestra while they travel on tour.

For more information, please call:
St. Peter Lutheran Church at (239) 463-4251.



We Get Mail

November 16, 2011

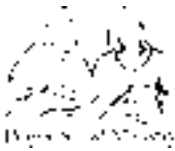
Dear Pastor Lorrie,

Les and I greatly appreciate the loving attention given by you and the members of your staff and congregation to us and in memory of my cousin, Mary Aardrup.

Love in Christ,
Jacque Clemens
Tallahassee, FL

October 25, 2011

Thank you so much for all your thoughts and prayers. We have just returned from a cancer clinic in Germany and I have faith that it will work out well with further treatments! I truly love the prayer shawl, it's beautiful. Thank you! ♥



Thanks again,
Kathy Bunger
Ft. Myers Beach, FL

November 4, 2011

To the Ladies and Gents who did such a wonderful job for Charlie's memorial luncheon, and to the people who participated in the wonderful service;

Sally and the Rudolph family wish to thank you all.

Sally Rudolph
Ft. Myers Beach, FL

November 14, 2011

Dear Members of St. Peter,

Just want to update our friends at St Peter Church. We moved from FL Lutheran Retirement Center in Deland last December.

We have been living in the parsonage of Zion Lutheran Church, Groveland, FL with our son and his son Terry since Jan. 2010. We decided to buy a house and live together to the mutual good of all of us.

We started looking for a home in Jan. 2011 and signed for one in April. It was a short sale that took until Oct. 31, 2011 to close. We are currently readying the house to move in and hope to be moved by Thanksgiving or sooner.

Bill still fills in for his fellow pastors occasionally but is officially retired. He tends the flower beds at church and helps wherever he can. Our daughter, Ann, still lives in Virginia Beach and her daughter Kathryn is in her first year of college at VA Tech and doing well. Bill, our oldest son, lives in Tampa with his family and we see him more often. We are all in good health and enjoying life. We enjoy getting your newsletters.

Our new address is:

1832 Western Hills Lane
Mascotte, FL 34753

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Bill & Helen Renn
Mascotte, FL

P.S. John has just finished making 1800 of his crosses. They are all over the world now, Sweden, Israel, Georgia, etc.

November 21, 2011

Dear Friends in Christ,

For the get-well cards and your prayers I can only express to you "my gratitude and thanks." God bless and keep you in His grace.

Pastor Harold Popp
Cape Coral, FL



We Get More Mail

November 14, 2011

We are only in Florida the month of February each year and it is a blessing to both of us to attend your church. Your people are so friendly and the sermons are great.

Many blessings,
Basil and Phil Morrison
Kettering, OH

October 28, 2011

Dear St. Peter Family,

I have so much to thank all of you for... first and foremost, the love and care you gave Aunt Mary (Aardrup) all these years. I so miss talking with her... well, I still do, but not quite the same.

Also, your love when I was down there! I appreciate your list of donations and that you acknowledged them.

Such good people, you all are. I hope to see you all in 2012!

Sincerely,
Karen Hampton (Mary Aardrup's niece)
Lancaster, PA

October 15, 2011

Hi, Pastor,

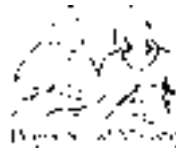
We're having a rather chaotic week and hope you are not! My knee replacement has been postponed until Nov. 30!! The prayer shawl arrived last week and survived nicely. A wonderful gift and source of comfort – thanks all! We expect to get there in mid-January. Looking forward to making music again at St. Peter.

Peace,
Dean & Juliet Arnold.
State College, PA

November 23, 2011

Dear Bruce & Diane (Allen),

...I am so thankful for you and your support. You and your church group have been so kind and thoughtful. All of your prayers mean so much to me. The prayer shawl has been well used. People (especially me!) can't believe that people who don't even know me care so much about me. Thank you so much for your good thoughts and prayers.



Love,
Karin Shull (friend of Bruce & Diane Allen)
Rochester, NY

(Edited for length)

November 7, 2011

To St. Peter Lutheran Church WELCA,

Hi, my name is Keith Alcuis, and I would like to thank you for your magnificent donations that sponsored me to attend Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) this past summer. This summer I realized that I would like to continue my music and major in music in college. My tuba instructor was very encouraging and will assist me with referrals and recommendations to music schools in selected colleges. Your support really helped me enjoy this experience. I really do not know what I would have done this summer without music camp. Thank you for helping me to go to this wonderful place.

Sincerely,
Keith Alcuis

P.S. from Rev. Stephanie Munz Campbell, **Grace Place for Children & Families**, Naples, FL – Keith's tuba instructor called me this summer to share that Keith is both gifted at tuba and disciplined. She is excited about introducing him to college music programs!

Let's Go! 2011-2012 Season



Join the St. Peter Lutheran Church family & friends for fun excursions and events this Season! Make your reservations early and include your check for the best tickets.

☆ CALL Sally Rudolph at (239) 466-1832 for more information.

CHRISTMAS BOAT TRAIN! Monday–DECEMBER 12, 2011

3:00 pm

Tickets: \$75.00 each

Seminole Gulf Railway *Christmas Rail/Boat Train* will whisk you to the old Punta Gorda Depot where buses will ferry you to Fisherman's Village for a 1-hour boat ride through the famous Punta Gorda Isles' lighted holiday extravaganza. 5-course dinner along the way!

☆ *Need Reservations by NOVEMBER 27, 2011* ☆

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre Events!

ME AND MY GAL

Tuesday – JANUARY 17, 2012

Buffet 5:30 PM; Show 7:30 PM

Tickets: \$49.00 each

☆ *Need PAID Reservations by December 27* ☆

BRIGADOON

Tuesday – MARCH 6, 2012

Buffet 5:30 PM; Show 7:30 PM

Tickets: \$49.00 each

☆ *Need PAID Reservations by February 5, 2012* ☆

THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK MUSICAL

Matinee–Buffet 11:45 AM; Show 1:15 PM Wednesday– MARCH 28, 2012

COMBO event with *Ladies' Lunch Bunch!* Tickets: \$39.00 each

Meet some of the residents of a trailer park called "Armadillo Acres". Norbert and Jeannie have been married for 20 years, and there's no electricity left in their relationship, a situation enhanced by Jeannie's agoraphobia, in which she refuses to leave their trailer

☆ *Need PAID Reservations by March 4, 2012* ☆

DATE
CHANGE!

▣ Early Dinner at Parrot Key Restaurant, then Sunset
Cruise on the PIRATE SHIP TUESDAY • January 24, 2012

▣ Coral Castle, Bayside Marketplace & "Island Queen" boat tour
(See Separate Page for details) TUESDAY • MARCH 20, 2012

☆ *Need PAID Reservations by: FEB. 12, 2012* ☆

Let's Go!

2011-2012 Season

10/28/11

Join the *St. Peter Lutheran Church* Family & Friends for Fun Excursions!

TUESDAY • MARCH 20, 2012
BUS DAY-TRIP – Homestead / Miami
\$ 76.00 per person INCLUDES:

1. Coral Castle

Explore Coral Castle, a sculpture garden in stone built by one man - Edward Leedskalnin, a 100 lb. Latvian immigrant, from 1923 to 1951. Without any help and using only simple tools, he excavated and secretly carved over 1,100 tons of coral rock, and his unknown process has created one of the world's most



mysterious accomplishments. Features include a 9-ton gate that moves with just a touch of the finger, a Polaris telescope and functioning rocking chairs – all made entirely of stone. Was featured on national TV's "That's Incredible," "In Search Of...", "You Asked For It!" and "Ripley's Believe It or Not". Even rock star Billy Idol wrote his hit song, "Sweet Sixteen" about Ed's lost love. ***Outside Venue - please wear Walking Shoes.***

2. Bayside Marketplace

- waterfront Shopping; Lunch on your own

3. "Island Queen" Boat Tour

– Narrated Boat Tour around downtown Miami and Biscayne Bay, featuring **Star Island**, home of the rich and famous. Cash bar and snacks onboard boat.

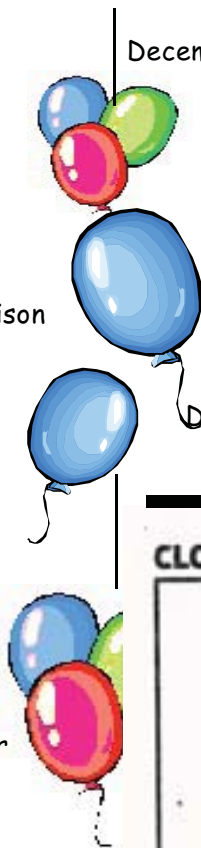
Bus Tour Departs **Big Lots** (McGregor and San Carlos Blvd.) at 6:30 a.m., and **St. Peter Church** at 6:45 a.m. Rest Stop on Alligator Alley. Arrive Home approx. 7:30 p.m.
☆ **CALL Sally Rudolph at (239) 466-1832** for Reservations or more information, or **Helen of Tours with Helen at 239-772-3272**; out of state: 866-561-9540.

RESERVATIONS – Payment must be received 30 days prior to tour–
February 12, 2012. Refunds up to 30 days prior– February 12, 2012.

BIRTHDAYS!

HOORAY ANNIVERSARIES!

December 1 Carol Dahlin
December 2 John Bond
December 2 Gwyneth Kurtz (1)
December 3 Jackie Dawson
December 3 Phyllis Robertson
December 5 Francis Gernandt
December 5 Linda Nelson
December 5 Carlene Pekol
December 6 Ralph Smith
December 7 Pastor Lorrie Davison
December 7 Dan Faust
December 9 David Nelson
December 11 William Palmer
December 12 Marge Holland
December 12 Debra Kind
December 13 Ann Gemenden
December 18 Jack Hofmeister
December 21 William Arendt
December 22 Layne Crisp (11)
December 22 Jack Hyssong
December 23 James Albinger
December 25 Steve Nelson
December 25 Mary Ann Spengler
December 26 Joan Berecz
December 28 Robert Owens
December 31 Phyllis Morrison



December 1-James Shepardson/Joyce Timmons (4)
December 4 - Steve & Deb Nelson (2)
December 12 - Charles & Carol Kennedy (8)

December 14 - Arnie & Nancy Johnson (55)*
*You're in the Dictionary- under 'Lovebirds'!

December 16 - Frank & Pat Modafari (33)
December 22 - Bob & Sue Horning (21)
December 23 - Peter & Ann Wheatley (4)

December 26 - Charles & Marilyn O'Data (53)*
*Sweethearts for always!

CLOSE TO HOME



The famous question is asked for the first time.

We love to celebrate your special days with you! If you would like to see your name included on our Birthday and Anniversary list, please call the church office at (239) 463-4251.

The Christmas Heart

Let us remember that the Christmas heart is a giving heart, a wide open heart that thinks of others first. The birth of the baby Jesus stands as the most significant event in all history because it has meant the pouring into a sick world of the healing medicine of love which has transformed all manner of hearts for almost 2,000 years... underneath all the bulging bundles is this beating Christmas heart.

- George Matthew Adams



Take a Moment to **SAVE THESE ITEMS** to Benefit **WELCA Outreach Ministries!**

By **SAVING** or purchasing the following items, YOU can help with the ministry of Jesus Christ in our community. The Ladies of St. Peter Women of the ELCA **THANK YOU ALL** for your continued generous support of our many outreach projects:

PULL-TABS From Aluminum Cans –

Benefit the Ronald McDonald House at Health Park and help to provide a place for the families of critically ill hospitalized children to find rest and comfort. The tabs are taken to Miami where they are sold and the money is used to help maintain this beautiful facility.

LABELS from CAMPBELL'S PRODUCTS and GENERAL MILLS BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION COUPONS –

Benefit Heights Elementary and Beach Elementary Schools. Please save these labels in their entirety (whole labels) – **DO NOT TRIM!** The name of the soup, and the price code needs to be on the label or they will not accept them. The schools use these labels to purchase computers, sports equipment, musical instruments, and more! A complete list of accepted products is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

SOAP, SHAMPOO & LOTION –

As you travel, please collect the wrapped bars of motel **SOAP**, bottles of **SHAMPOO** and **LOTION**. These are distributed to Lutheran World Relief, Immokalee Friendship House, AIDS Task Force and other agencies in need.

Used POSTAGE STAMPS – Again!

Yes, we ARE collecting your used postage stamps again! Your stamp donations will now benefit a publishing house in Argentina which is dedicated to writing and publishing Sunday

school materials in Spanish to spread the word of Jesus in 13 Latin American countries, Spain and the U.S.

Simply clip the stamps from all correspondence you receive, leave 1/4 inch border, and bring or mail them to St. Peter Lutheran – use the container in the narthex to deposit your donations. **POSTCARDS** – do NOT cut off the stamp from postcards; please save the entire card.

ITEMS for SALE to benefit WELCA Projects:

ST. PETER CRYSTAL ORNAMENTS

Beautiful Crystal glass, etched with the St. Peter building in a red velvet pouch, makes such a nice keepsake gift for anyone who loves St. Peter! Priced at just \$10 each, these will be sure to sell out soon.

RADA CUTLERY is the BEST!

This is a high-quality and extensive line of knives and cutting tools, available for purchase from any WELCA member, or call Mary Lou Wright at 415-6626. There are several new items in stock, and others can be ordered. Proceeds benefit many WELCA outreach ministries

COOKBOOKS!

Everyone KNOWS that Lutheran ladies can really **COOK!** You can purchase the St. Peter Lutheran Women of the ELCA cookbook, *KEYS TO GOOD COOKING* with thousands of tried and true recipes for only \$20 each! New Books already have inserted **ADD-IN RECIPES** of 106 new scrumptious delights; or for just \$5.00 each (+\$1.75 if we ship it for you) you may order the Add-Ins for books you already have! WELCA ladies will sell Cookbooks anytime – just ask one!

Questions about any of these projects?
Please call Pat Modafari.

2011 CHURCH OFFICERS & COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT	Bruce Allen
VICE PRESIDENT	Jason Kurtz
SECRETARY	Kristi Schoenberg
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Barb Deming
TREASURER	Doug Eckmann
Joy Booth	
Jana Clevenger	
Roy Dagnall	
Cathy Figgins	
Charles Hester	
Barbara Hill	
Joy Krueger	
John Linebarger	
Fred Schmiesing	



Vision Statement

As a Church Family of God,
our vision is to create a loving, welcoming fellowship.
Led by the Holy Spirit,
we seek to become a beacon
of the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Parish Bulletin Board

SUNDAY WORSHIP:	(thru Easter)	8:30 AM & 10:30 AM
HOLY COMMUNION		All Sundays of Advent
Church Workday	(All Hands are Welcome!)	Mondays • 8:00 AM
Church COUNCIL		2 nd Thursday • 6:00 PM
CHOIR Rehearsal		Wednesdays • 6:00 PM
FISHING with St. Peter	(Call Bob Burr to Reserve)	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays
WELCA Anne Myrtle Circle and Christmas Luncheon		2 nd Wednesday • 9:30 AM

The Obstacle in Our Path

In ancient times, a king had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the king's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the king for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way.

Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded.

After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the king indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway.

The peasant learned what many of us never understand – Sometimes the Lord may allow an obstacle in our path, as an opportunity for us to learn, and to grow spiritually.

