

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!

OCTOBER • 2011

Trust in the Lord, and do good;
so you will live in the land,
and enjoy security.

Psalm 37:3, NRSV





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



Thoughts from Pastor

LUTHERAN RE-FORM

Back in 1789, one of our Belder statesmen, Benjamin Franklin, wrote in a letter, “In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.” However, I think that we could add a third

reality to this list – **change**. (*CHANGE ???!!!*) In the Lutheran church this “change” can go by another name – **reform**. Reform, reformation, and re-form all speak to change.

Repent, correct, uplift, renew, rectify, return, make new, reclaim... are all synonyms of the word **reform**, and they are powerful words when used within Christ’s church. The power comes from God through our Lord Jesus Christ, the second Person of the Holy Trinity, of God; and from the word of God that centers us in Who the church is about. The church tries to meet the new challenges of each age, through the same lens of God’s word and Christ’s cross, and yet with renewed understanding through the Holy Spirit.

Back in the 16th century, **Martin Luther** was seeking a gracious God, and in his deep scrutiny and prayerful study of the scriptures, he realized a wrong turn the church had taken on salvation. For instead of being punished and having to buy our way back to God and into heaven – Luther rediscovered God’s amazing gift of grace ... “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast.” (*Ephesians 2:8-9*)

Luther’s corrected understanding of God’s grace and its endowment of salvation was a gift to Christ’s entire church, and through the lens of Christ’s cross we have learned to see that Christ Jesus is always with us in our challenges and suffering.

The last Sunday in October has become known in our Lutheran churches as REFORMATION SUNDAY. On this day we remember the beginning of church reform as we recall Luther nailing his “**95 Theses**” to the doors of the Wittenberg, (Germany) Castle Church. These were a list of the abuses of scripture, doctrine, and practices that Luther saw present in the Roman church of his day. However, soon Martin Luther was seen as a heretic and was excommunicated by the church.

In the past twelve years, our look at Reformation Day has been changed ... reformed itself. On **October 31, 1999**, a bridge was built once again between the Lutheran church and the Roman Catholic Church. On this day there was a signing of the **Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification** – a mutual understanding that we *are* saved by grace through faith apart from good works, and that through God’s grace and our Lord Jesus Christ we have been set free from our sins, the devil, death and the grave. **Reformation also builds bridges.**

Re-forming and change is in the DNA of the church, for we are to live differently from the world with Jesus Christ and God’s word at the center of our lives. The church will always need to be reforming (re-forming) as we remain faithful to God anchored in his grace and love to serve him. May we live recognizing that we are saved by God’s grace-- continuing to help God re-form the lives of others by sharing his grace with all those we meet. **Don’t forget to wear your Red on Reformation Sunday.**

In Christ’s love,
Pastor Lorrie



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.

Spiritual Worship

Paul teaches that God has given each person special gifts and interests. Some can speak in front of groups, lead Bible studies, and be Lay Readers. Some prefer tending to those who are homebound. Some enjoy planning ways to bring people together for building relationships, and some offer their musical ability. Some are able to contribute a higher percentage of their income to the support of the church.

Each person has been blessed with a gift to the service of God, that can bring joy and satisfaction.

By discovering our gifts and using them to the glory of God, our lives become living sacrifices. Offering ourselves in God's service is our **spiritual worship**.

Your Stewardship Committee

“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” Micah 6:6-8



St. Peter's Women of the ELCA

Anne Myrtle Circle

All ladies of the congregation are invited to share in the fun and fellowship of meeting on **Wednesday, October 12 at 9:30 a.m.** in Lau Hall with a Bible study

followed by a business meeting and refreshments.

Happening This Month

SUNDAY • OCTOBER 2

Love Offering collection of CASH gifts for Caloosa Conference women's project, **Daughters of Naomi – Home for Troubled Women**, Fort Pierce, FL.

SUNDAY • OCTOBER 9

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 Ft. Myers area.

SUNDAY • OCTOBER 16

As part of their annual “Thank Offering Sunday,” our St. Peter WELCA ladies will conduct all facets of the worship service today! Trudy Archer and Joyce Burr will speak on “Dialogue with God.”

SATURDAY • OCTOBER 22

All Ladies are invited to a Mini-Retreat here at St. Peter! “*Love Thy Neighbor*” will be the theme for this Fall Gathering of the WELCA Caloosa Conference. The Mini-Retreat will feature crafts, Bible study, fellowship, beach walking, and refreshments, 9:30a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Looking Ahead...

NOVEMBER is PEANUT BUTTER MONTH!

Through Sunday, November 20th, St. Peter ladies will collect your donations of cash gifts and small jars of Peanut Butter to assist migrant farmworker families through *Harvest Time Ministries*, Bonita Springs, FL. Watch for further details in worship bulletin announcements and the November issue of *The Fisherman*.

WEDNESDAY • NOVEMBER 9

All ladies of the congregation are invited to share fun and fellowship at the meeting of the *Anne Myrtle Circle* at 9:30 a.m. in Lau Hall. Bible study will be followed by a business meeting and refreshments.

FRIDAY - NOV. 11 thru SUNDAY - NOV. 13

Join 250+ Lutheran women from our Florida-Bahamas Synod for a Spirit-filled weekend at the annual **WELCA Fall Gathering** at Lake Yale Baptist Assembly in Leesburg, Florida. Please contact Pat Modafari for details if you would like to attend.

SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 13

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 Ft. Myers area.

SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 20

Last day to receive your donations of Cash and Small Jars of PEANUT BUTTER for Harvest Time Ministries, Bonita Springs, FL (see above).

Special Thanks

Big Hugs and Thank You's to everyone for helping with our many WELCA ministry projects through your gifts and labor!

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

Questions? Call Pat Modafari at XXXXXX
VVVV

Here's What's News!

Thrivent Matching Gifts: Heads Up, Y'all!

As in past years, St. Peter will be gathering special gifts for two local outreach organizations during the last two months of 2011. Peanut butter (and jelly) will be the star of November as we gather supplies for Harvest Time Ministries, the special ministry to migrant families to the south of the Beach. We're going to try to out-do ourselves in amassing supplies of peanut butter and jelly. You may shop on your own or make a monetary donation. **But be aware:** Thrivent will match **ONLY** receipted donations, so please include (a copy) of the receipt for any purchase so we can get it matched.

In December – through Monday the 19th – we'll be “thinking lunchtime” for McGregor Clinic's HIV/AIDS families during the Christmas school break. A list of suggested items will be made available closer to December. As with November's peanut butter, lunch items purchased need to have copies of store receipts in order to achieve the match from Thrivent. No receipt, no matching funds!

Watch for details in *The Fisherman* and the Sunday bulletins. As always, Donation Center will be in the Narthex.

We are so thankful to Thrivent for enabling us to enlarge our outreach efforts to our community. It is good to be in partnership with them in doing ministry where God leads us. St. Peter has always been a church family with a spirit of joyfully seeking to touch others with God's love. Thank you for being you. God bless you all!

– Joyce Burr,
Your Thrivent Representative

Christian Ed.: Faith & Fellowship Opportunities

Classes for Everyone!

The series BAPTISM FROM A LUTHERAN PERSPECTIVE which was presented following Sunday worship during the months of July and August was well received with average attendance of 15-18. Each class also included discussion and questions.

During October and November we will present a portion of the People of Faith series titled A GARDENER, TWO TRAVELERS AND A CHEAT. Following worship in October and between services beginning Reformation Sunday the sessions will last approximately ½ hour with the format including time for discussion and questions.

In January Pastor Lorrie will finish up the July/August series on Baptism, then February through March we will offer more of the People of Faith series between Sunday services. We need volunteers willing to lead those different short series under Pastor Lorrie's guidance.

During these adult class times we will also make available a children's education program based on a “one-room school” concept.

Beginning in November we will again be offering our monthly Movie Night which will continue through March. We are in need of people willing to host one or more of the movie nights in Lau Hall.

We're also in the planning stages of some weekly or semi-weekly small group Bible studies to be held either on or off-site (at St. Peter, your home or elsewhere). Please let us know if you might be available for hosting or leading one of these small groups.

If you have an interest in attending/hosting/leading any of these opportunities to serve our Lord, please contact Pastor Lorrie, Bob Burr, or any member of the committee. All comments and suggestions are welcome.

In His Service –
Your Christian Education Committee

Bob Burr, Bernie Cardell, Jim Fogdall,
Barbara Keene, Jason Kurtz, Roy Patterson,
Chris Smolder, and Sherry Walker

Here's MORE News!

LOSSES in the FOLD

St. Peter lost a dear member when **MARY E. AARDRUP** (90) passed into the Church Triumphant on Thursday, September 8, 2011.

Mary and husband Paul, who preceded her in death in 1991, were very active here at St. Peter since they joined the St. Peter family in 1981. For many years, Mary kept the financial records for St. Peter on huge ledger sheets, with as many as 15 columns to indicate designated gifts. She also served as a verger (money counter) for St. Peter on Monday mornings. She faithfully attended WELCA programs and helped with their outreach projects. Her quick wit, dry sense of humor, and gentle presence will be so sorely missed.



A service of interment was conducted at Ft. Myers Memorial Gardens on Monday, September 12, by Pastor Lorrie and attended by many of our church family. A Celebration of Life Service was held on Friday, September 23 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Peter, with lunch and fellowship afterward in Lau Hall.

Please hold Mary's family and dear friends to the Lord in prayer during this difficult time.



We feel the loss of St. Peter member **CHARLES "Charlie" RUDOLPH** (90), who went home to the Lord on September 10, 2011. Charlie and wife, **Sally**, had just celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary on August 17, 2011.

Charlie was the youngest child of John and Mathilda (Shenot) Rudolph of Wexford, PA. In 1946 Charlie married Mabel Schmidt and they had three children; June, John and David (who passed away in 2006). Charlie opened "Rudolph Auto Repair" in 1956 in Gibsonia, PA and was a well-respected auto mechanic. He retired in 1983 to the Ft. Myers area and his son, John, and grandson, John Christian, took over the business. After 42 years of marriage, wife Mabel passed away in 1988. In 1991 Charlie and Sally were married. Sally organizes the St. Peter excursions and fun events "Let's Go!" Charlie and Sally were both active St. Peter Choir members for many years. Charlie's wonderful sense of humor and his positive outlook will be deeply missed here at St. Peter.



Our love and sympathy go out to Sally, the Rudolph family and their many friends; please hold them close to your hearts in prayer.

"Blessed be **God**, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

- II Corinthians 1:3,4

Here's Even MORE News!

Church Council Meeting Highlights • September 8, 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.

Jim Albinger, from the committee formed to hire the Music Director, reported to Council that H. G. Fisher will be hired as an employee, not as an independent contractor. This change has been made to avoid potential issues with the I.R.S. H.G. has agreed to this and his contract was approved reflecting this change.

Pastor Lorrie prepared a list of people who are here year around which was distributed to Council. This list was divided up and a phone tree set up. Members from Council were assigned individuals to contact in the event of a hurricane to inquire about their needs and welfare.

Approval was given to purchase four Royal Palm trees to plant on the property.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristi Schoenberg
Council Secretary



We Get Mail

September 8, 2011

Thanks to the four churches who took part in the Thrivent-Lee County contest for most volunteer hours during the month of August at Harry Chapin Food Bank. Because of the volunteers from these churches, Harry Chapin garnered a total of 717 hours that they otherwise would not have had. They were very grateful for our help, and the best part is, the churches that did participate have people returning there to volunteer on their own time. Yes, it was that much fun!

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:



Christine Wittenberg

Placing 1st and getting one additional approved event for their community, school, or youth, was Trinity Lutheran Church of Cape Coral, with a total of 278 hours and 84 people.

And because one other church was so close in volunteer hours, we are awarding an additional approved event to Messiah Lutheran Church in North Fort Myers in the amount of \$1200. Congratulations, Messiah! This group had 240 volunteer hours and 82 people.

Finishing in 3rd place was Peace Lutheran Church with 175 hours and 59 people, and 4th place was St. Peter Lutheran Church with 24 hours and 8 people.

Thanks you again to the four churches that participated. It was fun coming to volunteer and finding out that one of the other churches was also there to help that day, so Peace and Messiah and Peace and Trinity got to work together on two separate days. Harry Chapin Food Bank was the real winner, thanks to your servant hearts.

Blessings,
Carolyn Mijokovic
Director, Congregational Advocates
Thrivent – Lee County

Here's What's News TOO!

Christmas Stockings – A St. Peter Tradition

How true it is! “When one door closes, God opens another.”

We were informed recently that the Salvation Army has decided to eliminate their stocking distribution for 2011. After many years of assembling Christmas stockings here at St. Peter, we greeted that news rather grimly.



But another door – right here at home on Fort Myers Beach – has opened for us. Joy Booth, representing WELCA and St. Peter, has been greeted as an answer to prayer by the Spirit of Christmas on the Beach. Stockings assembled by our church family will be distributed to Beach area youngsters by Santa as he visits their homes on his trusty fire truck. Your donations of stocking stuffers, monetary gifts and time (to stuff those stockings) continue to be needed.

In addition, we need volunteers to do some basic (hand) sewing to create the stockings. Contact Joy Booth or Joyce Burr for materials and directions. And a Blessed Christmas to us all!

Calling ALL Ladies ~ Join the LUNCH BUNCH!

The Lunch Bunch is a group of St. Peter ladies who get together for lunch and fellowship, usually on the last Wednesday of each month, at a different restaurant. It's a great way to make new friends and renew old friendships! Our next outing will be on **Wednesday, October 26** at 11:30 a.m. For reservations and information, please call Jana Clevenger at (317) 753-1510.



An Invitation

The choral experience is at the very heart of Lutheran Worship. Our highest calling,



our primary purpose is to worship the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, strength and, I might add, our voices. We have had a faithful group and a dedicated organist/director who have led our worship for many years.

As the new organist and choir director, I would like to present a variety of anthems representing the best traditions of church music. In order to do so, we must retain our current choir members and musicians and attract new members for greater depth and capability.

I am not expecting a professional choir of trained voices; however, I hope that we can increase our membership and provide music that will enhance our services and inspire the members of St. Peter.

My goal is to provide a worship experience that will uplift and energize, to present the best music of the Church in a meaningful and professional manner and to witness to the great liturgical traditions of the Lutheran Church.

Our first regular rehearsal will be held Wednesday, October 19th at 5:00 P.M. and we will sing at the 9:30 A.M. service on Sunday, October 23rd and at the 8:30 A.M. service on Sunday, October 30th through the end of the year.

I invite our current choir members and all interested members, associates and friends to join us in rehearsal and service. I also urge those of you who were away for the summer including winter residents to join us as you return to the Ft. Myers area. I promise you it will be a joyful and fulfilling experience.

In Christ's Service,

H. G. Fisher, Jr.

Your new Organist and Director of Music

Caloosa Conference Fall Meeting

ALL are Welcome

Thursday, October 6th
6:30pm



St Peter Lutheran Church
3751 Estero Blvd, Ft. Myers Beach

Program:

-- God's Table --

**A Bridge from Homelessness to Hopefulness!
Homeless Ministry in our Midst**

Light Refreshments will be served

Join us for Worship, Fellowship, Learning,
and just a bit of business

Please RSVP to St. Peter 239-463-4251

"Love Thy Neighbor"

The Caloosa Conference
of the *Women of the
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America*
(WELCA) invite ALL ladies
to join us on



**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 22**
9:30 am - 2:30 pm

**WELCA
Mini
Retreat**

at **St. Peter Lutheran Church • Ft. Myers Beach**
for a time of Spiritual Renewal and Refreshment.

- **Bring a Bible**
- **Bring a Sandwich**
- **Bring Walking Shoes and Comfortable Clothes**
- **Bring all your friends!**

There will be a time for – Worship, Songs, Sharing, Crafts, Bible Study, Inspiration, good Fellowship. Beach Walking and Meditating.

A free-will offering will be collected for expenses and a donation to "Share the Spirit" SWO Scholarship.

All ladies are welcome!

Questions?

Call Pat Modafari at XXXXXXXX e-mail: modafari7173@comcast.net

9/27/11

Sponsored Event

**Registration
CLOSES Oct. 10th !**

Disaster training for Lutherans

of Lee and Collier Counties

Saturday October 15th 2011

at Zion Lutheran Church • 7401 Winkler Road, Fort Myers

Register with Michael Weber at: mchlwbr@gmail.com

Phone 239-209-1883.

Four classes will be offered, (two in the morning and two in the afternoon).

Come for one or come for two.

AM Class 1- Basic Disaster Response; 8:30-11 am. A photo ID will be issued to participants on completion of this class (cost \$6.00). Having this type of ID is useful in getting into areas that have had mandatory evacuation.

AM Class 2 - Chainsaw #1; 8:30-11 am. This class deals with safety and proper supervision. This class should be taken even if you do not plan to use a chainsaw.

Lunch - 11:15-12:00

PM Class 1- Muck Out; 12-2:30 pm. This class will train participants in the process of safely cleaning a home that has been flooded. Additional training classes will be offered in the coming year.

PM Class 2 - 12-2:30 pm Trapping and Closing with Utilizing your Church after a disaster- Steps to take to secure a structure after a disaster and discussion on possible church use in serving your community after a disaster.

Having a trained group would serve our local churches as well as allowing us to lend a hand to other Florida communities. Come, be trained so that you can be ready to be a blessing to others in a time of need.



9/27/11

Go Fishing with St. Peter! **TUESDAYS**

October 11th & October 25th



Everyone is invited to go Deep-Sea FISHING on Tuesdays, October 11th and October 25th from 9:00 AM until about 4:30 PM on *Captain Tony's Fishing Express*, located on your right just before you cross the sky bridge onto Fort Myers Beach.

The cost is \$48 each
(Cash only, no checks or credit cards).

Join the FUN!

HELP Provide FISH for the St. Peter FISH FRY!

We need Fishermen (folk) to help provide the fish for the annual Fish Fry on Sunday, November 13th.

Please contact
B BURR at
XXXXXXX ***immediately*** to
reserve your spot or for
more information!



Here Come the Trees!



On Monday, September 19, 2011 St. Peter received some beautiful palm trees, primarily royal palms, to beautify the grounds. Thank you to our Monday morning work crew for preparing some of the planting holes,



and to **J. Soto Lawn Care, Inc.** for their good work and beautiful trees!



CHRISTMAS is Coming!

9/27/11



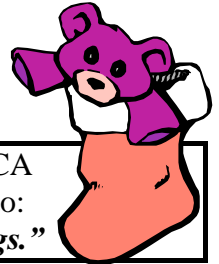
Christmas is TODAY! At least, here at St. Peter Lutheran Church we're getting a head-start on filling Christmas Stockings for needy children in our area. The Women of the ELCA are seeking **your donations of toys and surprises!**

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

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

Small Stuffed Animals
Crayons & Coloring Books
Small Cars & Trucks
Small Dolls
Books (*for ages 2-teen*)
Hair Barrettes-Ribbons & Bows
Personal Diary
Cologne/Girl's toiletry items (*for teens*)
Socks
Transistor Radio/with batteries
Baseballs

Girl's Jewelry, Cosmetics
Keychains
Pocket Calculators
Baseball Caps
Decorated T-Shirts
Sunglasses
Hair Brush, Comb, Mirror
Wallets / Small
Purses
Yo-Yos
Flashlights



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). Closer to Christmas, all are 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!

QUESTIONS? Call Pat Modafari at XXXXXXXX
VVV

LifeWalk

for Lifeline Family
Center

**LIFE – A Choice We Can
All Live With!**



Saturday • November 12, 2011

Everyone dust off your walking shoes and start stretching! Lifeline Family Center, Cape Coral, will kick off their inaugural LifeWalk event on Saturday November 12th **at Jaycee Park, Cape Coral**, with registration starting at 8:00 a.m. and the walk/run beginning at 9:00 a.m. Lifeline Family Center is a non-traditional Christian maternity home providing education and support to young women in crisis pregnancies. The program helps these young women to redirect their lives and become self-supporting and contributing members of society.

You can participate in many ways – SIGN UP as a Walker/Runner; RECRUIT others to participate with you, HELP PLAN and/or PROMOTE the walk/run to local churches and the community; VOLUNTEER; or simply grab a lawn chair and join us for a day of fun, entertainment and celebration as we come together to promote “Life”. Participants in the walk/run are encouraged to GET PLEDGES to support the ongoing ministry of Lifeline Family Center; this can be done on your own, through pledges from family, friends, and neighbors or as a group or organization.

In addition to the walk/run, the event will include: **Live Music, Free Food and Refreshments, a Parrot Show, Prizes** and of course, fellowship with friends for a worthy cause.

Show your support and sign up as soon as possible. You can pre-register by contacting Life Line Family Center **Assistant Director Jenna A. Steffel at (239)-242-7238.**

Printable pledge forms can be found on the Lifeline website and you can also make donations directly to the Lifeline ministry by visiting: www.lifelinefamilycenter.org.

The Season of *Singing* has Come!

Song of Solomon 2:12

St Peter Lutheran CHOIR welcomes new members!
Come sing for a few weeks or stay
FOREVER!

Weekly Choir rehearsals are on
Wednesdays (beginning OCT. 19th)
from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

We have a dynamic and growing choir
and hope that you will join us!

Questions?

Call H. G. Fisher at XXXXXXXXXX
or the church office at (239) 463-4251.

St. Peter Family News

St. Peter Member in the News!



St. Peter member BEN POLK with his wristwatch collection. Photo by Brian Hirten
Published *The News-Press*, FL 9/12/11.

St. Peter member Ben Polk was featured in the “Lifestyles” section of the September 12, 2011 issue of *The News-Press* Ft. Myers newspaper, highlighting his extensive collection of character wristwatches. A member of the National Watch and Clock Association, he has been steadily working at his collection since 1985.

As a side note, Ben recently sold his home and has moved out of the Ft. Myers area; we received the following E-Mail from Ben:

September 6, 2011

I truly did not mean to pack my tent and sneak off into the night. Circumstances just had me playing that way.

First of all, I ASSUMED when putting my condo up for sale, that it would take a year. Instead, the first person who saw it made a CASH offer if I would vacate in 14 days. Obviously I had to move rather fast to find a new place to live near (but not with) my son, Morgan. That and the move of furniture was accomplished.

I have five Lutheran churches within 5 miles of my new home, attended one Sunday and will visit

the rest before making my decision. It will be my hope that one will be as friendly as St. Peter, but that will be very hard to duplicate.

Millie and I enjoyed 22 years at St. Peter and felt absolutely at home in that aisle seat third row, with close friends all around us.

With a lump in my throat and tears in my eyes, share our love to all.

– Ben

“Caring Bridge” Report about BOB HORNING – Sept. 13, 2011:



Sue & Bob Horning – Sept. 2011

This picture was taken at Bob & Sue (Horning’s) house this past Sunday... all enjoyed a wonderful day with steaks grilling on the patio. Bob continues doing great things, bigger things and better things than before his stroke. I am awed by his wisdom and inspired by his spirit.

He has humor, effort, spunk, love, appreciation, consideration, faith, value and so much more.

Sept. 2, 2011 – His speech has greatly improved and for the first time he has movement in his left hand. More good news to report is that Bob turned 74 this week. His faith, hard work and attitude along with all of your support and prayers have helped Bob get to where he is today.

Peace to all – *Bridget*

Working in the Lord's Vineyards...



Volunteering at Harry Chapin Food Bank

The Albinger's, Allen's, Markusen's and Modfari's spent a fun morning on Wednesday, August 24th, cleaning cans and bottles and checking dates on packages of food at Harry Chapin Food Bank, downtown Fort Myers on Fowler Street. Yes, we were dirty when we finished, but happy we could help.

Jen, at Harry Chapin, gave us a tour of the storage facilities, which was very interesting and enlightening. We saw a video explaining how Harry Chapin Food Bank was founded and how it has grown over the years.

We thank Thrivent for giving us this worthwhile volunteer opportunity; some of us will definitely go back. We were able to work side-by-side with a couple from Messiah Lutheran Church and the regulars that come on a weekly and daily basis to pack rice, beans and boxes of canned goods. Nothing goes to waste! Items that are questionable go into a box for pigs.



(Continues on Next Page)

Working in the Lord's Vineyards... *(Continued)*



The banana boxes pictured are part of what we filled that morning.

For the Volunteers,

Diane Allen



L-R: Jim and Donna Markusen, Jean and Jim Albinger, Diane Allen, Pat Modafari, Bruce Allen (back) and Frank Modafari (front).



We Get Mail

August 29, 2011

Dear friends in St. Peter's!

Thank you so much for your kind welcome cards that we received in Ft. Myers Beach.

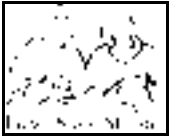
We have enjoyed coming to St. Peter since 2002, and we feel so welcome every time. We are safely back in Norway and back to normal but are longing for the days when we'll be back at our beach! Hopefully next summer. We'll see.

Dear friends, may God watch over you all and I wish all the best for St. Peter and the good work you do for those that aren't as lucky as us!

Warm regards from
Hanne and Tormod Eek
Holfer, NORWAY

September 10, 2011

Friends & Church family of St. Peter,



Words can not express my thanks and praises on receipt of the beautiful Prayer Shawl and note. You have touched our hearts in so many ways, and your prayers and support mean more than you will

ever know. God has indeed blessed all of you to be such a blessing to others, like us!! We miss you all, but we will see you, hopefully, in February-March of 2012!!

Again, Love and Blessings,
Jackie and Jack Hunter
Jackson, MI

September 21, 2011

Dear Friends at St. Peters,

With so much going on I don't remember if I and Jack have thanked you all so much for your prayers, cards, e-mails and Christian friendship you have

blessed Jack and I with! Thanks especially for the beautiful prayer blanket Jack received after his surgery! Special thanks to Pastor Lorrie's thoughtfulness for calling twice about Jack. We really appreciate ll your prayers. We will miss you this year, as we had to cancel our yearly trip down due to both Jack's surgery and the surgery I will be having soon!

If this is a repeat card, it's 'cause you're all so great!!

Jack and Jackie Hunter
Jackson, MI

P.S. Jack never lets his shawl get too far from him!

August 30, 2011

Pastor Lorrie & Friends,

Ed. Note:

On Sunday, August 28, 2011 our Thrivent Director of Congregational Advocates *Carolyn Mijokovic*, and Thrivent Financial Consultant *Steven Esala*, worshiped at St. Peter, participated in the Adult Study, then hosted a "surprise" honorarium for our own own congregational Thrivent advocates – ***Diane Allen, Joyce Burr*** and ***Pat Modafari***. A beautifully decorated (and delicious!) cake was served.

Thank you again for the opportunity to worship with you on 8/28. It was a joy to honor the servant work of your three Thrivent advocates: Diane Allen, Joyce Burr and Pat Modafari.

Thank you, too, for your servant hearts as a congregation. Your light shines brightly in this world, and I know many are blessed because of it.

“We're alive; we're enabled, we GET to!”

Continued blessing to you all,
Carolyn Mijokovic

Director, Congregational Advocates
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

You're Invited to our 7th ANNUAL
ST. PETER

**SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 13**
on the PATIO!
**Following the
10:30 AM
Worship Service**

9/23/11



St. Peter will Provide:

- Fresh-Caught FISH
from the Gulf of Mexico!
(Caught by our own St. Peter fishermen!)
- HUSH PUPPIES!
- BEVERAGES!

Please Bring Your Favorite

- **DISH to share!** *Salads • Veggies • Desserts*

**Come ENJOY!
Enjoy Island fare!
Meet New FRIENDS!**

GO FISHING with St. Peter!

We need Fishermen (folk) to help provide the fish for this Fish Fry. See page this issue of *The Fisherman* for details on how you can help. For more information, call Bob Burr at XXXXXXXX
XXX



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! Your stamp donations will 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 at XXXXXX
~~~~~

# Let's Go!

2011-2012 Season

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.

# Let's Go! 2011-2012 Season



Join the St. Peter Lutheran Church family & friends for fun excursions and events this Season! Price will come later.  
 ☆ CALL Sally Rudolph at (239) 466-1832 for more information.

## **Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre Events:**

● **"SUGAR"** TUESDAY • November 8, 2011

Buffet 5:30 PM; Show 7:30 PM

☆ **Need PAID Reservations by: OCT. 16<sup>th</sup>** ☆

● **"WHITE CHRISTMAS"** TUESDAY • December 6, 2011

Buffet 5:30 PM; Show 7:30 PM

☆ **Need PAID Reservations by: NOV. 13<sup>th</sup>** ☆

● **"ME AND MY GAL"** TUESDAY • January 17, 2012

Buffet 5:30 PM; Show 7:30 PM

☆ **Need PAID Reservations by: DEC. 27, 2011** ☆

● **"BRIGADOON"** TUESDAY • March 6, 2012

Buffet 5:30 PM; Show 7:30 PM

☆ **Need PAID Reservations by: FEB.5, 2012** ☆

● **"The Great American TRAILER PARK Musical"**

Buffet 11:45 AM; Show 1:15 PM WEDNESDAY • March 28, 2012

Combo Outing of St. Peter "Let's Go!" and "Ladies' Lunch Bunch."

☆ **Need PAID Reservations by: MARCH 4, 2012** ☆

## **MORE FUN EVENTS!**

▣ Dinner Train & Boat Ride from Fisherman's Wharf  
MONDAY • December 12, 2011

▣ Early Dinner at Parrot Key Restaurant, then Sunset Cruise  
 on the PIRATE SHIP TUESDAY • January 31, 2012

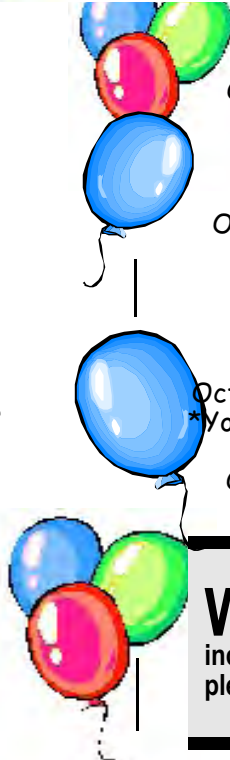
▣ Coral Castle, Bayside Marketplace & "Island Queen" boat tour  
 (See Separate Page for details) TUESDAY • MARCH 20, 2012

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

## BIRTHDAYS!

October 1 Paul Anderson  
October 2 Bill Young  
October 3 Don Sollars  
October 4 Bill Beaulieu  
October 4 Joyce Patterson  
October 5 Carol Kennedy  
October 6 Samuel Ellner (6)  
October 10 Doug Eckmann  
October 11 Bill Figgins  
October 11 Paul Johnson  
October 12 Carol Masternak  
October 17 Harold Asmus  
October 17 Christine Smolder  
October 18 Marilyn O'Data  
October 18 Libby Smith  
October 19 Andre Assink  
October 19 Martha Miller  
October 22 Ginny Heckert  
October 22 Suzanne Kirsch  
October 23 Joanne Miller  
October 24 Pete Peterson  
October 26 Pat Modafari  
October 27 Jack Hunter  
October 27 Shirley Hyssong  
October 29 Peter Trone  
October 30 Courtney Eckmann  
October 31 Linda Beaman

## HOORAY ANNIVERSARIES!



October 6 - Jamie & Jennifer Crisp

(4)

October 10 - William & Maloa Palmer (46)

October 16 - Bruce & Diane Allen (46)

October 16 - David & Linda Nelson (46)

October 17 - Ralph & Arlene Moore (64) \*

\*WOW! You two are an Inspiration

October 20 - Jack & Jackie Hunter (49)

October 21 - Roy & Carol Dagnall (33)

October 23 - Jack & Shirley Hyssong (57)\*

\*You're in the Dictionary- under 'Lovebirds'!

October 24 - Stan & Joanne Miller (58)\*

**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.

### How to Get to Heaven

An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, "How do you expect to get into Heaven?"

The boy thought it over and said, "Well, I'll run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says, "For Heaven's sake, Dylan, come in or stay out!"



## ***Thrivent Financial* members –**

# **You can Give with Thrivent Choice Dollars!**

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Giving back makes an important impact in people's lives. Last year alone, Thrivent Financial provided more than \$100 million to help congregations, communities and individuals in need. Members who own Thrivent Financial products help make this support possible. These dollars may be assigned to YOUR LOCAL CONGREGATION, so don't delay in calling Thrivent TODAY at 1-800-847-4836 and state your "Thrivent Choice!"

### **How are Choice Dollars determined?**

Eligible members are designated Choice Dollars based on their:

- Insurance premiums
- Contract values
- Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership within the local Lee County Chapter.

### **Choice Dollars designated to you**

- \$4 Choice Dollars per \$100 of annual premium on qualifying insurance products are designated monthly based upon the premium payments you made in the prior month.
- \$2 Choice Dollars per \$1,000 of contract value of qualifying products are designated on a quarterly basis. 25% of this amount will be designated to you each calendar quarter based upon the actual contract value at the end of quarter.

### **Choice Dollars Expiration Date**

Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed until March 31 of the following year. For example, you can direct Choice Dollars designated to you in 2011 until March 31, 2012.

- You can direct Choice Dollars to as many organizations as you like. However, you must direct a minimum of \$5 Choice Dollars to each organization.
- Thrivent Financial will distribute Choice Dollars funds directed by members to organizations monthly.

### **Recurring Direction**

Want to automatically direct your designated Choice Dollars to the same organization? Choice Dollars funds will be automatically distributed to your recommended organization when the balance reaches \$10 Choice Dollars or more. At year-end, the entire balance will be distributed, including balances of less than \$10 Choice Dollars.

- The process remains in effect until you change this option. You will receive a reminder email prior to funds being distributed.
- You may only set a recurring direction for one organization.

### **How Do I Direct My Designated Choice Dollars?**

Choose from Lutheran organizations nationwide, *including your local congregation.* It's easy! Call TODAY 1-800-847-4836 and state "Thrivent Choice."



## We Get Mail

August 29, 2011

Dear Joyce (Burr),

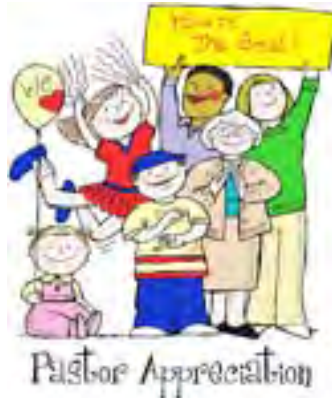
What a wonderful note and how nice to be remembered by you and St. Peter's church members. However, don't give up on us just yet! We did not come to Ft. Myers Beach this summer because I was in the last months before finally retiring from the church Music Director job here. They have hired the new director but I agreed to stay on until Aug. 31 to have time for transition – with 7 choirs, 8 cantors, about 70 funerals per year and 20-30 weddings, 8 masses per weekend, and over 200 volunteers in the music ministry (over 80 in one choir, 45 in another, 3 Filipino choirs of 60+ in the 3 combined, a Spanish choir of 20+, and a family choir/children's choir – there was a lot to turn over. I have concluded 48 years as a Music Director for Catholic churches (19 at the final stop), and it was just time! My commute to this parish has been 130 miles round trip 5-6 days per week – so I am looking for some respite time in retirement.

Of course, church salaries have always been pretty low so pension in retirement is not much – but graces should compensate.

Hope springs eternal however – and the really good news is that a very kind condo owner has offered us a huge discount and we will be in Ft. Myers Beach and at St. Peter's on Sundays (maybe even workday Mondays) from Nov. 5 - 26<sup>th</sup>. If I can get enough practice time in prior to coming down – I will bring the oboe along and see if there's anything your music director would find useful.

God bless you always and all ways for your kind spirit and making us feel welcome.

May peace be yours,  
Tom Schafer and James P. Jones  
Linden, VA



## October is Pastor APPRECIATION Month

### *Someone Cares*

The lunch break on our train ride through the Rockies was at the lonely whistle-stop of Osier. Waiting for the cafeteria line to shorten, I wandered around and saw a young man in soot-darkened coveralls standing on the platform between the engine and the coal car. His blackened hands and sweat-streaked face suggested he was the fireman.

“Want to come up?” he called to me.

Sure! I climbed the ladder and watched as he shoveled coal from the bunker and threw it into the firebox. He even let me try a few shovelfuls. He seemed delighted that I was interested in his work.

“People don't talk to the fireman much,” he said. “I don't know why. He's the one who keeps the whole show moving. If the water doesn't boil, there's no steam, and without steam you aren't going anywhere.” Hunger called me back to the food line and I said good-bye to the fireman.

Thinking about it that night, it seemed to me a perfect picture of the role a pastor plays on the spiritual journey. Day by day, week in, week out, these men and women work to keep the spiritual fires burning. I cannot imagine a harder calling, and I wondered how long it had been since I told my own pastor how much I appreciated his often unseen, unsung labor.

– John Sherrill

**Thank you, Pastor Lorrie -  
for all you do, for all you give,  
for all you are!**

## *MISSION STATEMENT of St. Peter Lutheran Church:*

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Led by the Holy Spirit, we go forth as a Family of Faith proclaiming and celebrating the life-giving and freeing power of God's unconditional love in Jesus Christ to all people by:

**STRIVING** to provide time, facilities and materials for *all ages* through our **Education** programs so that God's children will have the opportunity to grow in the Gospel and experience God's presence in our midst.

**USING** our congregational gifts of location, compassion, generosity, friendliness, and inclusiveness to meet, through our program of **Evangelism**, the needs of our neighbors: seasonal visitors, the homeless, migrant workers, and young families. We will also continue our outreach to others in God's family, prayerfully meeting new challenges as they come to us.

**MAKING** our **Property** facilities accessible and appropriate so that in large or small groups, either worshipping or working, we will be able to grow in the Gospel through **Fellowship** and educational opportunities to provide support for those who are our neighbors.

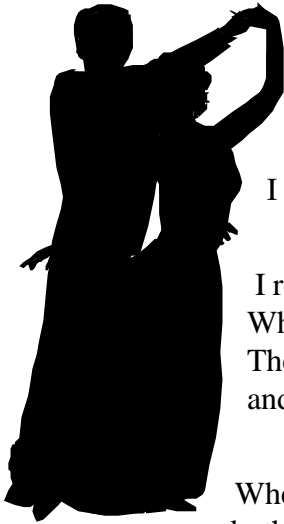
**RESPONDING** in loving care and concern through the outreach of **Social Ministry** as we meet the needs of those in our area through material items and emotional support.

**GATHERING** volunteers to share the knowledge of St. Peter's local, national and worldwide ministries through appropriate **Stewardship** of time, talent and treasure so that we may respond to the needs of others.

**PROVIDING** a **Worship** experience through Word and Sacrament using historic and contemporary materials which will form a vibrant Liturgy for our growth in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.



# *Dancing with God*



When I meditated on the word *Guidance*,  
I kept seeing “dance” at the end of the word.

I remember reading that doing God’s will is a lot like dancing.  
When two people try to lead, nothing feels right.  
The movement doesn’t flow with the music,  
and everything is quite uncomfortable and jerky.

When one person realizes that, and lets the other lead,  
both bodies begin to flow with the music.

One gives gentle cues, perhaps with a nudge to the back  
or by pressing lightly in one direction or another.

It’s as if two become one body, moving beautifully.

The dance takes surrender, willingness,  
and attentiveness from one person and  
gentle guidance and skill from the other.

My eyes drew back to the word *Guidance* ...

When I saw “G”: I thought of God;  
Followed by “U” and “I”.  
“God”, “U”, “I” dance.  
God, You and I dance.

As I lowered my head, I became willing to trust  
That I would get guidance about my life.  
Once again, I became willing to let God lead.

May we all learn to Dance together with God,  
Trusting God to lead and to guide us through each  
season of our life.

