



THE BEACON: St. Peter's on the Hill

January 2024

"Let your light shine before others"

St. Peter's Pikeland UCC * 1193 Clover Mill Rd.,
Chester Springs, PA 19425 * 610-933-6419
email: stpeterspikelanducc@verizon.net www.stpeterspikeland.org



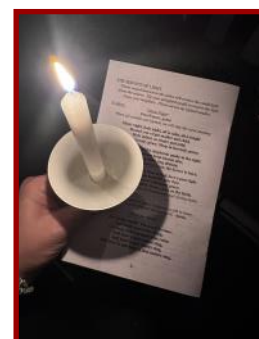
Home for the Holidays



Christmas Eve was a Sunday this year, and so that special day started with the morning service. Then, at 5:00pm, the pews were filled with smiles and the greetings of "Merry Christmas." The story of Christ's birth brought sweet memories of Christmas past for those gathered in the sanctuary, decorated so beautifully from our Hanging of the Greens service. Favorite carols were sung, and the world once again felt lifted into the Spirit of "peace on earth, goodwill toward all."

At the 9:00pm candlelight service of lessons and carols, all gathered sang Silent Night, candles in hand, surrounded in a holiness that only Christmas can bring.

St. Peter's was once again a beautiful light on a winter's evening.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

From our "home" to yours, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and blessed New Year. Thank you to everyone who made this holiday season as beautiful as it was. With much gratitude, we wish you all a Happy New Year!



On January 3rd, Santa Fred and Pastor Doug hand delivered a check to St. Mary's Shelter in the amount of \$3,000, thanks to the generosity of our church members!





Weeks leading up to Christmas

.... Thank you to Kat Bowman and Ray Perry, the McClimons, the Nieuwenhuizens and the Wookeys, our Advent Wreath candle lighters.

.... Thank you to the Sewing Circle for taking Christmas gifts to the Pocopson Home.

.....Thank you to Katy Krasley, who organized the poinsettias orders this season.

.....Thank you to Diane Campbell for delivering the gifts to Bethany Children's Home.

.....Thank you to Cindy Warner for heading the Hanging of the Greens service and the Sewing Circle for heading the refreshment time afterwards.

.....Thank you to Jackie Warner for organizing the craft fair after the Hanging of the Greens.

.....Thank you to Kat Bowman and all the musicians who gifted us with music through Advent and Christmas.



Hanging of the Greens

A big thank you to Cindy Warner, who organized our Hanging of the Greens Service. Thank you to everyone who donated greens, and volunteered to help throughout the service in order to prepare our sanctuary and hearts for the birth of Jesus.

(special thanks to the donor of the tree and wreaths)

.... Thank you to those who brought gifts to the Hanging of the Greens for the children of Bethany Children's Home. You once again helped these children believe in the Spirit of Christmas!



Un-Hanging of the Greens

On Sunday, January 7th, after worship, we will be putting away all of the Christmas decorations that adorned the sanctuary so beautifully through out Advent. We are asking that any willing and abled bodies stay afterwards to help put Christmas away. Many hands make for light work!

Santa Fred

We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the kind people who donated to Santa Fred's collection this year. Your generosity affects the lives of so many people in our community in such a positive and loving way!

Thank you!

Caroling

Thank you to the carolers who set out on the night of December 15th to spread love and Christmas cheer to some of our beloved members!





January 18th At Franklin Commons

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

The Taste is back for its 22nd year! Gather your friends and be sure to bring your appetite for one of Phoenixville's most popular social events of the year to show your support for Good Samaritan Services! Proceeds benefit those experiencing homelessness and poverty in our community being served by Good Sam.

Once a year over 300 individuals attend The Taste of Phoenixville, a premier social event to show their support for [Good Samaritan Services](http://www.goodsamservices.org). Good Samaritan Services provides support to those who are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness.

Be a part of this delicious event featuring amazingly creative cuisines, an incredible silent auction, complimentary local wine and beer, and plenty of surprises!

Experience delicious cuisine and beverages from over 20 local vendors, bid on exceptional silent auction packages, enjoy live music, and show off your best moves on the dance floor! Don't wait, buy your tickets today. Your tastebuds will thank you!

Go to www.goodsamservices.org
for tickets



Worship Volunteers Needed in the New Year

As we enter into 2024, please consider signing up to help with Sunday worship, whether it's to be an Usher or Lector or to offer altar flowers or social hour. You will find the sign up sheets hanging in Fellowship Hall, or you contact the church office, via e-mail.

Thank you to everyone who helps make each week flow so smoothly!



Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, January 28th, immediately after worship, the Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting will be held. If you cannot attend, absentee ballots will be sent out soon. The 2024 budget will be presented for review and approval.

During worship that day, the new Consistory members will be installed.

Commitment Forms

Please remember to take a moment to fill out your 2024 Commitment Form. These forms are incredibly helpful in planning out the church's budget. If you need another copy to fill out, you can find them in the church building or one can be e-mailed to you again.

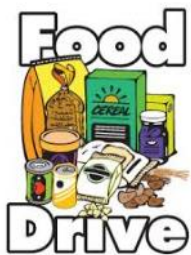
Sewing Circle News



The a sewing Circle Elves were very busy buying gifts for people at Pocopson thanks to the generous donations from the members of Sewing Circle.



Thanks to our hostesses Virginia Garber and Micki Menkins the Sewing Circle and some men enjoyed a lovely Christmas lunch and fun Christmas games provided by Pastor Doug.



PACS Winter Food Drive

For the months of January and February, we will be collecting non-perishable food items, toiletries, cleaning supplies, baby products and pet food. This is to help PACS keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors in need. In July 2021, PACS aided 282 families. In July 2022, they aided 715 families. That's a significant increase! With the price of food, gas, heating oil and rent being so much higher, people don't have enough money to buy the necessities that are needed. Items can be dropped off in the crates located in the front and

back of the church or on the table in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for your generosity,

The Sewing Circle

PACS Hot List Please no glass containers or opened/expired foods.

Food • Oatmeal • Spaghetti • Pancake mix • Poptarts • Syrup • Mac and cheese • Chef boyardee • Ketchup • Mayonnaise • Ramen • Brownie mix • Cake mix • Icing • Salty snacks (ex., terra chips, mixed nuts, hippeas, skinny pop chips, pretzels, popcorn, tortilla chips) • Healthy snacks (ex., trail mix, granola bars, kind bars) • Jelly (grape & strawberry) • Peanut butter • Peanut butter crackers • Cheese crackers • Cookies • Juice • Salad dressing • Relish • Alfredo sauce • Peaches • Pineapples • Canned Fruit • Garlic Powder • Onion Powder • Cinnamon • Vanilla extract • Thyme • Paprika • Rosemary • Crisco • Masa (corn flour)

Baby Items • Diapers sizes newborn, 5, 6, & 7 • Baby wipes • Baby body wash

Toiletries • Body wash • Shampoo • Deodorant • Shaving cream • Razors • Toothbrushes • Sanitary pads • Toilet paper • Paper towels

Pet items • Dog food, wet and dry • Cat food, wet and dry

Cleaning products & miscellaneous • Laundry detergent • Laundry detergent (hypoallergenic) • Dishwasher detergent • Trash bags • Sponges • Can openers • Dish soap • Sandwich bags • Universal cleaner • Tissues • Clorox wipes • Clorox/bleach



dry



January Birthdays

Jeannie Leaman	1/1
Sean Harlow	1/6
Declan McCarthy	1/6
Ed Benjamin	1/7
Eileen Biddle	1/7
Cheryl Nicholson	1/7
Marielle Stewart	1/8
Diane Campbell	1/9
Kathleen Wachsmuth	1/9
Lucas Cheney	1/10
Amelia Cook	1/12
Aidan Stewart	1/14
Rob Cottone	1/16
Carolyn Wilson	1/18
Chip Griffiths	1/20
Don Giordano	1/22
Mary Jo Pandjak	1/22
LeeAnn Michener	1/24
Laura Yeakle	1/24
Christine Merryman	1/24
Judy Smythe	1/25
Bob Frederick	1/27
Michelle Case	1/27
Richard Mest	1/27
Matthew Bierer	1/28
Gus Orr	1/28
Jan Orr	1/28
Brian Neiman	1/29
Luke Wilson	1/29
Sonja Wheelan	1/30
William Miller	1/31



John and Barbara Borzillo
Bob and Jane Breisch
Ian and Sally Mansmann
Reid and Kirstin Smith

A 'Thank You' From Lahaina

Aloha members of St. Peter's UCC, Greetings with aloha and grace from our Lord, Jesus Christ!

We will endeavor to share your generous sharing with the many displaced families of Lahaina.... This fire consumed a high concentration of residential homes, and coupled with an already short supply of housing, the problem is multiplied.

But with your big-hearted donation, we at Lahuikokalani Ka'anapali, plan to bring the joy of Christmas through gifts for children and gift cards for families... by early February, families will have to pay for utilities, mortgages on burned homes, and just normal expenses. At that time, your donation will bring assistance to families to alleviate the stress of financial obligations.

Right now, our church shares the sanctuary with Waiola Church (UCC), United Methodist Church, Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, Tongan Methodists, and the Filipino congregation of King's Cathedral.

Again, mahalo nui for your care and kindness to the people of Lahaina. For anyone who has been to Lahaina, you will know the sadness that we all feel. It will be a long journey to wholeness.

Blessings and aloha, Aileen Trout

(NOTE: Thank you to the Shermans for their help in coordinating our donation to Lahaina.)

Charles Booraem

On Wednesday, January 4th a service was held for Charles Booraem here at St. Peter's Pikeland, who passed away on December 27th. Please keep Betty and Charles' family in your thoughts and prayers.

Bill Latta

On Saturday, December 30th, a service was held for Bill Latta here at St. Peter's Pikeland. Please continue to keep Pam and Bill's family in your thoughts and prayers.



February Highlights

Souper Bowl Service- February 11th

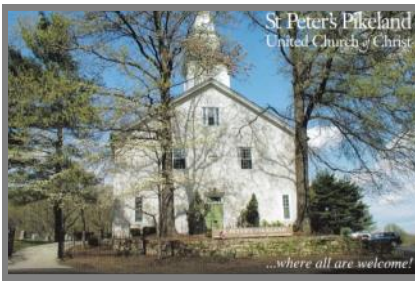
Ash Wednesday- February 14th

Mission Sunday- February 25th



Like us on FaceBook:
St. Peter's Pikeland

Our Services are now
livestreamed



Our Prayer List

Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers:

Church Staff

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

Church Officers 2023

President of Congregation –
Pete Warner

Secretary of Congregation –
Kathleen Wachsmuth

President of Consistory –
Jim Phillips

Secretary of Consistory –
Kathleen Wachsmuth

Elders

Kathleen Wachsmuth
Deb Wetty, Peter Wilson

Deacons

Herman Nieuwenhuizen,
Jim Phillips

Trustees

Fred Wookey III- Chair
Bob McClimon, Peter Wilson

Allison Lockhart, sister of Rev. McLemore
Andrea Lafleur
Angie Schlessman
Barbara Broyles, friend of the Wachsmuths
Barbara Shivers
Carol Meyer
Cathy Moffa, friend of Don and Gwen Davidson
Connie Hershey, friend of Micki and Alyssa Menkins
Charlie Fishman, Pete Warner's Nephew and Godson
Chris Webb, son of a friend of Lynn Mailey
Debbie Rittenhouse, mother-in-law of Mitchell Warner
Donna Rhodes, Gail Phillips' sister
Friends and family of Charles Booraem
Friends and family of Ernie Coccia, Father of Deb Wetty
Friends and family of Bill Latta
Guinevere, granddaughter of friend of Dee McClimon
Gwen Davidson
Heidi Kieffer, daughter of Eric Johnson's cousin
Ian Charles Harmon, the Booraem's grandson
Jashown Banner, former student of Jackie Warner
Jean Neiman
Jeff Johnson, Co-worker of Eric Johnson
Jennifer Osborne
Jessica G., friend of Grace Merryman
John Pittock, friend of Grace Merryman
Laura Dick
Laura S., friend of Grace Merryman
Lia Sawyer, friend of Cherri Romano
Lisa, cousin of Eric Johnson
Mary Andersen, friend of the McCarthys
Michelle Ralston, friend of Maureen Wookey
Melinda Greenwood, cousin of Joe Thomson
Mike Brown
Nancy Harris
Nancy Pittock, friend of Grace Merryman
Pattie and Charlie Freeman, friends of the Bowman's
Patrick, friend of Dee McClimon
Richard, friend of Dee McClimon
Sally Kramer, Cherri Romano's sister
Sally Mehrens, sister of Lynn Mailey
Sharon Divis, daughter of Judy Smythe
Sue McVay, friend of Mary Jo Pandjak
Sylvia Houff, Kathleen Wachsmuth's sister
Tara Cantello, friend of Denise Harlow