ST. PETER MACOMB LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

KEYNOTES

December 2025

Our mission is to glorify God by making and growing disciples of Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 9:6-7 "For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this."

The King has come.

The month is here, most people either love it or dread it—December, and all that comes with it. Throughout the Advent and Christmas season, plenty is going on at St. Peter and I can only imagine how many more things are going on in your life. Whether it's the stress of shopping or trying to plan the perfect gift or family gathering; worrying about if you are doing enough; or working extra to afford special gifts or surprises.

This time can get overwhelming, both negatively and positively. You may get to see family you haven't seen in a long time, or share memories and laughs that warm your heart and soul. If little ones are around then getting to see their joy is infectious. Sometimes this time of year just feels like everything is turned up to 11!

In the midst of all our busyness, let's make sure we remember the reason why we have all of this going on to begin with. The most important gift of all was given, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6) While there are many different things to focus on during Christmas, I also want to focus on this: more than just a baby was born that day, more than just a prophet, our Savior was born, our King was born.

God's people had been promised this King long ago, and they were waiting, for a long time might I add. They waited and waited, and then waited some more. The day did come. Jesus, the King of Kings, came. His birth was not grandiose or extravagant, but more simple, almost quiet and private. The signs were there however, the huge star in the sky marking and drawing the eye of wise men who knew it meant something, and the angels announcing it to the shepherds that finally the savior had come. The one who would go on to save the world through His death and resurrection.

This is King Jesus, and it is this time of the year when we take moment to reflect and consider just how great a gift it is to have a King who knows us by name, who loves us enough that He wouldn't send others out to defend us, but He would go and win a battle against our enemies for us. He has come and established His Kingdom in our hearts and minds, but we long for the day that will never end when we finally get to be in the eternal kingdom, seeing the Son of God lifted high at the right hand of the Father.

The people waited a long time for Jesus to be born, and we continue to wait for Him to come back when He will bring us to paradise, but while we wait for that day. He has given us a mission, He has let us know that we are important and that we have a part to play while we wait. This part is to let people know about the King whose Peace never ends, and rules now and forever. This King Jesus is who they need, and they might not know it. We bring the people to the King and let Him do what He does, miracles. We Build Together the Kingdom of God bringing people to the King who gives them a new name and welcomes them in like old friends and family. I can think of no other words to cry than what the angels said, (Luke 2:14) "Glory to God in the highest"

Blessings from the King of Kings who rose again to be with you forever in His Kingdom!

Pastor Dante Pronsati

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The St. Peter Times

December 25, 2025

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Macomb, MI

Mission: To glorify God by making and growing disciples of Jesus Christ.

Baby born in **Bethlehem** stable

From the Gospel of Luke, chapter 2, verses 1-7.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration Quirinius governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Have you heard?



Child born to Joseph of Nazareth, and Mary, in a local stable in Bethlehem while traveling to be registered.

Join us for worship! Saturday Sunday 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 11:00 a.m.

Advent & Christmas Services

Join St. Peter Macomb for worship this Advent & Christmas season.

Everyone is welcome to Lessons & Carols services are the Advent and services are Wednesdays, either 3:30 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The

Sunday, December 21, at Christmas worship services at 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. St. Peter Macomb. Advent Christmas Eve services are 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:00 December 3, 10, and 17, at p.m., 7:00 p.m., and 9:00 p.m. Christmas Day worship is at 10:00 a.m.

Angels seen by Shepherds in field

From the Gospel of Luke, the chapter 2, verses 8-20.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.'

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Upcoming:

December 3, 10, 17 (Student led) - Advent Worship - 3:30 p.m. (Traditional), 7:00 p.m. (Modern)

December 24 - Christmas Eve - 11:00 a.m. (Modern), 1:00 p.m. (Traditional), 3:00 p.m. (Modern - candlelight), 7:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m. (Traditional - candlelight)

December 25 - Christmas Day - 10:00 a.m.

December 31 - New Year's Eve - 6:00 p.m.

For additional information about any of upcoming services and events, please contact our Church Office at (586) 781-3434, or go to stpetermacomb.com.

"Have You Heard?"

Have you heard...that this year our theme for Advent and Christmas is titled "Have You Heard?"

Have you heard...that the season of Advent is just around the corner and begins the weekend of November 29?

Have you heard...that Pastor Pronsati and Pastor Wenzelburger will be interviewing one another during our first two midweek Wednesdays on December 3 and December 10?

Have you heard...that our day school Christmas programs will be held on Wednesday, December 17?

Have you heard...that we would love to see all of you join us as we hear the wonderful message of Jesus' arrival as our Messiah and King?

As the seasons of Advent and Christmas quickly approach, we look forward to celebrating the news we have heard—that Christ has come to rescue us and bring us true and everlasting grace, mercy, and peace.

Stewardship & Holiday Office Closures:

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2026 offering envelopes will continue to be mailed directly to your home. Bi-monthly, you will receive a packet containing two months' worth of envelopes, which includes regular giving and special event envelopes. Please contact the Church Office and ask to speak to Lindsay Beneson or email Lbeneson@splcs.net if you have any questions about offering envelopes. Please contact the Finance Office and ask to speak to Maria Morelli or email her at mmorelli@splcs.net if you have any questions about electronic giving.

2026 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE COMMITMENT CARDS

God has blessed us abundantly and through regular tithing, we give thanks for those blessings. Pledge Cards are for regular intentional giving and are available in the Church Office and at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex. They are also available on the website to print or to fill out in a Google form. We encourage you to prayerfully return your cards or fill out the online form by the end of the year. Online forms are available here: https://stpetermacomb.com/church/serve-learn-grow-serve/stewardship/

CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Church Office will close at 12:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve Wednesday, December 24, and remain closed on Christmas Day Thursday, December 25, and Friday, December 26. We will reopen for normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, December 29, and Tuesday, December 30. We will be open 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 31, to receive year- end charitable contributions.

YEAR- END GIVING INFORMATION

Contributions received or postmarked by December 31 will be applied to your 2025 financial statement. Online electronic giving takes several days to process. To be credited for 2025, the transaction must appear on St. Peter's bank statement by December 31, 2025. Thank you for your generosity and faithful giving throughout the year!

Worship

Advent - Waiting for Jesus

He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! Revelation 22:20

For this month, I would like to share with you some portions of an article by Marie Greenway, a Lutheran musician who has contributed numerous articles to Concordia Publishing House's online blog.

The Church Year, which begins anew on November 30 with the First Sunday in Advent, begins with Holy Scripture's conclusion. Earlier in November, we celebrated the Saints Triumphant and sang of Christ's second coming in the end times. With the start of Advent, we begin a time of waiting for Christ's coming – past, present, and future – and as we anticipate His coming with humble repentance. This is in contrast to how the secular world celebrates the new year – raucous partying and resolutions to better one's self. Our church year begins more humbly: we turn/repent from our sins and pray, as the last verse of Revelation says, "Come quickly, Lord Jesus!" We look to the Old Testament prophecies of when Israel awaited her Messiah. We look to Christ's presence among us today in His Word and Sacraments. And we await His coming on the Last Day, when He will gather the faithful to Him in His kingdom.

As it seems to happen earlier and earlier each year, the secular world's Christmas does not want us to wait! Stores are more than happy to take our money now. Decorations already adorn stores, restaurants, homes, and even some churches. This tension exists between the Church's more solemn time of Advent and the world's frantic pushing of lights and decorations on November 1. But we know as the Church that waiting is good! We are preparing for Christmas not by buying things, but by preparing our hearts for Christ. We sometimes reflect this in our worship. You may notice in our traditional services that we do not usually sing Christmas carols and hymns during Advent. Instead, the music of Advent is a plea for Christ to come: "Savior of the Nations, Come" (LSB 332) and "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (LSB 357) attest to this. This is hopeful music, filled with expectant joy – yet, we still wait. This music is certain of the coming Messiah, but not yet fully rejoicing that He is arrived.

As Christmas Eve arrives, we are all the more joyful for having prepared not only our material goods but also our hearts for the King. We are ready to worship at His manger. The music of Christmas Eve and Day expresses this joy: "Hail, O ever-blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn! Sing through all Jerusalem: 'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'" (LSB 373). The festival does not end there- we do not turn off Christmas music on December 26, but we celebrate for twelve days until Epiphany on January 6! We also rejoice that Christ continues to come to us throughout the year in Word and Sacrament, offering us forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. And we also recognize that Advent is more than preparation for Christmas – it is preparation for us to wait and wait in our lives for Christ's second coming. The music on that Last Day will exceed anything we experience on Christmas Day or at anytime in our earthly lives. This will be joy without end – not for another Christmas Day that comes and goes but for the final coming of Christ, when He will reign for all eternity and make all things new.

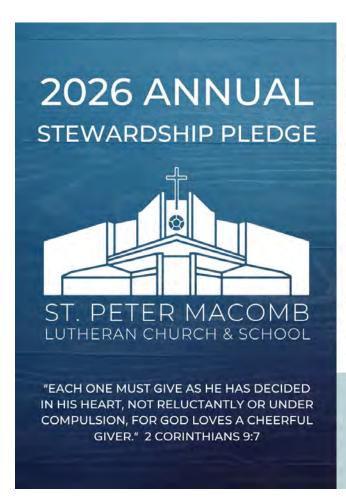
In His Service, Charlie Russell, Director of Traditional Music



Robert's Music Spotlight

This month I wanted to share with you the song, "Emmanuel God With Us" by Chris Tomlin. The advent season is here and in full swing! As much as I love Christmas I understand many challenges come with this season. In the midst of the excitement and anxiousness, remember what we are celebrating. We celebrate the birth of our Lord, Savior, and King. It's a celebration that acknowledges Emmanuel, literally God with us. (Isaiah 7:14) We not only celebrate Jesus' birth, but because of Him, we get to celebrate our new birth as well. He loved us so much that heaven met Earth in a manger, so that one day, we can meet Him in heaven. I pray that this timeless truth, not all the distractions, is your focus this Christmas. I challenge you not only to reflect on this, but to go tell it from the proverbial mountain top that the savior of the world is born and that He is with us! (Luke 2:10-12 and Luke 2:17-18)

Robert W. Costa, Director of Modern Worship



As we approach a new year, we have a renewed opportunity to show gratitude to God through our giving. Please prayerfully consider your annual regular giving intentions as we head into 2026.

*Please note, this pledge is for 2026 annual regular giving for the general well-being of the church. It does not include any specific campaigns or itemized offerings. If you are interested in designating funds for an end-of-year gift, please visit our online giving page or contact the Church Office at (586) 781-3434.

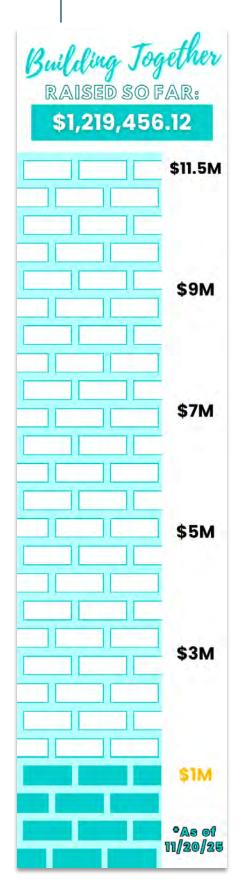
Online Giving (recurring or one-time online donations) can be set up by going to StPeterMacomb.com and clicking on the "Giving" tab, or by scanning the QR code below with your mobile phone.



Setting up online giving is not the same as returning a pledge card. Please turn in this pledge card even if you have set up recurring online giving. Return completed pledge cards to the the "treasure chest" box in the Narthex or in the Church Office by **December 1, 2025.**

NAME(S):	I/WE WILL PLEDGE THE FOLLOWING TOTAL AMOUNT TO ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH IN 2026 FOR THE ONGOING MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH:
PHONE NUMBER:	\$
EMAIL:	WEEKLY MONTHLY QUARTERLY ANNUALLY
SIGNATURE(S):	I INTEND TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH IN OTHER WAYS IN 2026 (PLEASE LIST ANY/ALL THAT APPLY):
I/WE UNDERSTAND WE CAN	CHANGE/UPDATE THIS PLEDGE ANYTIME BY CONTACTING

Service







CEF – How you can help! Many thanks to the Church Extension Fund (CEF) for helping us in so many ways! Earn up to 4.16% APY and help St. Peter as well with as little as a \$500 Fixed or Variable Rate Note.

"Where can I find more serving opportunities?" _

- Check out our Serve, Learn, & Grow and In The Know pages at stpetermacomb.com.
- Check out our weekly bulletins (available at worship services and online).
- Follow our social media pages: Facebook & Instagram (@stpetermacomb).
- Join our Facebook group: St. Peter Plugged In.



CHRISTMAS DECORATING Please mark your calendar for Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. to help us decorate our sanctuary for Christmas and put up the outdoor nativity. With some willing hands, laughter, and music, the work is made light and we're usually done around 10:30. We especially need men to help with the heavier jobs. Please call or text Vickie Wangelin, Altar Guild (586) 749-3325 or Chris May, Trustee Chairman (586) 942-7929 if you can help. What goes up must come down so we will be putting it all away on Saturday, January 10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. The ladies will decorate the theme Christmas trees in the Narthex on Monday, December 1. Please contact Vickie if you can help. We sincerely appreciate everyone that is willing to give a helping hand as it adds so much to our Christmas celebration as we worship our newborn King!

Calling all medical professionals! If you are willing to be called upon in the event of a medical emergency during our worship services, please contact our Church Office at (586) 781-3434 or churchoffice@splcs.net for further information.

More ways to help us Build Together!

Some of our St. Peter families have offered for a percentage of their businesses' sales to go to our Building Together expansion fund. If you would like to join our list, please reach out to our Church Office or Finance Department at (586) 781-3434.

- Air-Tite Replacement Co Inc. Air-Tite
 Replacement Co Inc. (Window and Door
 Sales and Custom Installation) will donate
 10% of the contract price to the building
 campaign for St. Peter church members
 and school families. Non-member contracts
 referred by church or school families will
 receive a 5% donation. Phone: (586) AIRTITE (247-8483) airtitereplacement.com
- Hauss-Modetz Funeral Home, Macomb and Tiffany-Young & Hauss Funeral Home Armada will donate 10% of the service charge to the Building Together Campaign for St. Peter Church and School families. Non-Members that are referred by church families will receive a donation of 5% of the service charge. Macomb (586) 263-3100 Armada (586) 784-9123 haussmodetz@gmail.com
- Smith & Sarconi PLC will donate 10% of the price of any estate plan purchased by St. Peter Church and School families to the Building Together Campaign. 13900 Lakeside Circle, Suite 203, Sterling Heights, MI 48313, (586) 884-5420, jsarconi@s2attorneys.com

St. Peter Mission Team 2026 Christmas Dearborn Ham & Motown Soup Fundraiser!



Blessings to all! Our St.

Peter Mission Team will be serving on a mission trip in 2026! The destination is to be determined this month, so stay tuned for the details!

Our team needs your support to make this happen. This year we will be hosting a Christmas ham & soup fundraiser with our partners, the Dearborn Ham Company and Motown Soup! There will be several different types of hams, kielbasas, & other tasty items, as well as an assortment of soups, including boxed sets—which make great gifts! We are especially thrilled to partner with Motown because they are a charitable organization that donates proceeds back to the community. So, any purchase from them will help them and us!

The sale goes through Sunday, December 7, in the Crossroads between services or online. Distribution is planned for the weekend of December 20 between services.



If you have questions, please contact Darla Bratkowski at lighthousemich@gmail.com.

Thank you for all your past and future support. It is truly a blessing to be able to serve others in God's name and we couldn't do it without you. Amen!

Memorial Offerings

In loving memory of Dennis Carpenter,
a contribution has been given to:
Seminary & College fund and New
Building Fund by Darlene Miller, Daniel &
Harriet Aberlich, Dennis & Susan
Schumaker, Donald & Cynthia King, Gerald
& Darlene Schafer, Roy & Lois Geer, Dennis
Carpenter II, Amy Spybrook, Duane &
Ruthann Bettcher, William & Patricia
Jumisko, Jim Schwark, Donald & Darla Wild,
Jim & Sue Kaiser, Bruce & Betty Brendle,
Michael & Dawn Bettcher, Nancy Reinhardt,
Andy & Sue Eskelinen, Marilyn Radlick, and
Gwen & Paul Previdi

In loving memory of Larry Boeling,
a contribution has been given to: Music &
Organ Fund and New Building Fund by
Milt Miller, Kathy Krause, Jerry & Jan
Stange, Terry Davis, Fred Koenig, and
Jim Schwark

In loving memory of Forest Dodson, a contribution has been given to: Music & Organ Fund by Duane & Ruthann Bettcher

In loving memory of Dulane Coval, a contribution has been given to: Scholarship Fund by Bill & Merlene Thompson

In loving memory of JoAnn Johnson, a contribution has been given to: Music & Organ Fund by Robert Johnson

In loving memory of Kenneth Knop, a contribution has been given to: Music & Organ Fund by Janice Knop

In loving memory of John Harder, A contribution has been given to: <u>Church</u>
<u>Ministry</u> by Roy & Joyce Schwark, Michael & Nancy Kepsel, and Mark & Linda Schwark

Thank Offerings

For Neal Hoegemeyer, a contribution has been given to: New Building fund by

Lori Tucker

DID YOU KNOW that you can remember a special occasion or loved one by purchasing flowers for the front of Church? Maybe it's a birthday, anniversary, baptism, wedding, or just a special day to honor someone.

Please sign up in the Church Office. The cost is \$25. Checks made payable to: St. Peter Women's Ministry.

Questions? Please call the Church Office.



Thank You...

St. Peter Family,

The outpouring of love and support from all of you has been a source of comfort for myself and my family. St. Peter is a family and a caring community and for Larry (and myself) it was always an important part of his life. Your cards, food, phone calls, and texts have been wonderful and I couldn't ask for a more caring group of families and staff. You have made the past two weeks easier. I can't thank you enough for your love and support. Thank you from all of us.

In Christ,

Robin, Aaron, and Tim Boeling

Connection

For more information about all current and upcoming Bible studies and small groups, please visit stpetermacomb.com.



Bible Studies:

God's Word for Today Bible Study You are invited to attend this Sunday morning Bible study at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Paul's letter to the Ephesians is about the Church and about the fellowship of believers who make up the Church. It is about us, for by faith we are the Church in our time and place. We, by God's grace, are part of God's family – a family united in Christ and sustained by the Holy Spirit.

Moms (& Women) In Prayer Moms...and women! Join us each week as we pray for our children, schools, and community. Groups meet Mondays from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Zoom) and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (Zoom). Please contact Kelly Chirco (kellychirco@comcast.net) or Nicki Wargo (nwargo@splcs.net) for more information.

Wednesday Women In The Word Bible Study will NOT meet in December. Returning Wednesday, January 7, 2026 with a new Bible Study, "Be Still & Know," a Study of Rest and Refuge by Deb Burma. May God bless you and your family with a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Karen Gluski gludog2003@yahoo.com (586) 207-6201

Foundations: Miracles Led by Chris Oberly. Sunday mornings, 9:30 a.m. (Room 29)

Creation/New Creation Led by Charlie & Grace Wolf. Sunday mornings, 9:30 a.m. (Administrative Conference Room) Beginning October 5.

S.A.L.T. (Seasoned Adults Living Triumphantly) is a Bible study for those ages 55+ on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please enter through Door # 28. The S.A.L.T. group engages in Bible studies and other events throughout the year.

Sunday School St. Peter SONdays. Cool! Kids 3 years (potty-trained) - 6th grade (including additional support for kids with special needs) learn more about Jesus...the SON of God...our Savior! Sundays from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Questions about St. Peter SONdays (Sunday School)? Please contact Mrs. Nicki Wargo at nwargo@splcs.net.



Men's Bible Breakfast Led by Erv Aufdemberge. Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m. (Country Inn Restaurant - 23 Mile and Romeo Plank)

STEPHEN MINISTRY We all know the Advent hymn's refrain "Rejoice! Rejoice!" and the Christmas carol "Joy to the world." However, maybe this holiday season "rejoicing and joy" just aren't where you're at. Maybe you just want to be quiet and reflect, but the world is loud and celebrating. Could you use another person to just talk to? Do you want someone to listen, really listen, to you as you share a disappointment or a burden? That's what Stephen Ministers are trained for and experienced at doing. They will confidentially listen to you and pray with you. So if this season, you want someone to share your thoughts and feelings with, think about taking advantage of a Stephen Minister. Contact the Church Office or Linda Dunklau at (586) 247-5329. Stephen Ministers are here for you.

GriefShare Our current 13-week GriefShare session will be wrapping up this month. We will be meeting Tuesdays, December 2 and 16, at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday mornings, December 4 and 18 at 10:00 a.m.

There will be an additional Surviving the Holidays session on Sunday, December 14, at 2:00 p.m. The holidays can be so difficult for those who have lost a loved one. This one-time session, complete with a work book, video and discussion can be so beneficial to those who are deeply mourning. Please consider joining us to put yourself on the healing track.

Lastly, some very important news, GriefShare will be implementing some big changes in January 2026 for the next 13-week session. We will begin to meet <u>Sunday afternoons at 1:30 p.m.</u> in the Small Conference Room. Like always, our facilitators are excited to walk with you on your healing journey and will be anxious to know how you feel about this major change. Additional information about these changes will be posted in the January 2026 Keynotes, our church bulletin, and on the greifshare.org website. If you have any questions, please contact the Church Office at (586) 781-3434, Darcel Bennett at (586) 255-7090, or go to griefshare.org.

LGBT Family and Friends Support Group: Do you have a family member, loved one, or have an acquaintance with someone who is not engaging in a relationship by God's design? Do you struggle with how to interact with them, not wanting to judge others but to show God's love and just meet them where they are at? Then the Family and Friends of LGBT Support Group is for you! **We will meet tentatively on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Small Conference Room in the Administration Wing.** For questions, please call Carol Poterek at (586) 566-3785.

Quilters The quilting group is always in need of clean sheets, cotton and flannel along with any new material. They meet on Monday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall (north). Please enter through Door # 28. They also have packets of quilts squares available for anyone that would like to sew from home. Donations can be dropped off in the Coat Room in the Narthex and packs of quilt squares to sew are available there. Please call Bonnie Williams with any questions (248) 790-2664.

Men's Ministry Monthly Men's Gatherings will be held the 3rd Monday of each month. We will meet at the Hamlin Pub (Van Dyke and 25 mile) at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to join us for a time of "Connection and Conversation." Questions? Contact Pastor Ken at kwise@splcs.net or (586) 871 -4891.

December Women's Ministry Events

The Women's Ministry does NOT meet in December. We do, however, have a few things on the agenda ...

Caroling at The Orchards of Armada

- Thursday, December 11, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Women AND men are invited!
- Optional: Lunch afterwards at Papa's Restaurant in downtown Armada
- Contact Lois Bellhorn (586) 770-3002 if interested in joining us.

Cookie Walk

- Saturday, December 13, & Sunday, December 14, after all church services.
- Free-will donation—cash or credit card are accepted!
- BAKERS ARE NEEDED! Put cookies in one disposable container or shirt box and label the type
 of cookies (and if they contain peanuts).
- Drop off to the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 13, between 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. OR before the 6:00 p.m. Saturday evening service. Thanks in advance!!

Council of Lutheran Women - 2026 Woman of the Year

- Nominations for St. Peter's 2026 Woman of the Year will be accepted until December 31 by Co-Chairs Nanette Mapes or Ruthann Bettcher.
- Voting will be done at the Women's Ministry meeting on January 8.

Stay Healthy Exercise

Join some spiritual men and women in a morning of exercise and motivation. People of all ages are welcome and can benefit. Deb, our instructor, tailors the class to the audience. We work on our hearts, minds, and souls as we stretch, lift weights, and raise our heart rate slowly through low impact, easy to follow movements. Grab water, weights (2 to 5 pounds), and a mat, and join us each **Monday morning from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.** We will help you feel better from your head to your toes! Classes are \$5/session on a drop-in basis and are held in the Church Narthex. Enter through Door #28. Contact Paula for more information hoegemeyer@att.net or (586) 322-2319.

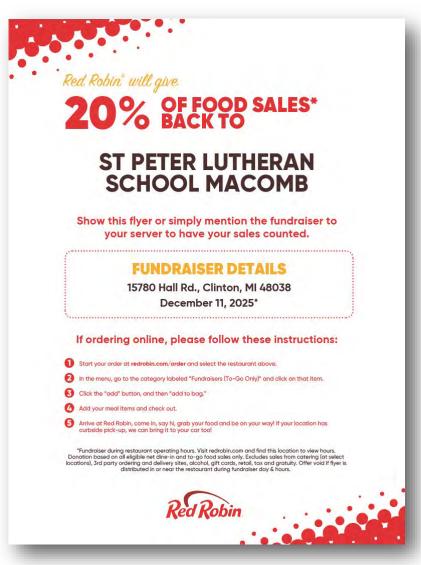
Christian Yoga

Come join us for a faith filled gentle yoga experience. Becky will guide us through prayerful meditation, stretching, and postures, embracing our mind, body, and spirit that God has given to us. All ages are welcome! Bring a yoga mat, water, and a joyful spirit for this class that will meet every **Thursday from 4:15 p.m.-5:15 p.m.** The cost is \$10/session drop in. Classes are held in the Church Narthex. Enter through Door #28. Contact Paula for more information <a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/joych.2

Lutheran North Christmas Concert The Symphonic Band and Concert Choir of Lutheran High North will be presenting their Christmas Concert at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Macomb (17051 24 Mile Road) on Sunday, December 7, at 2:00 p.m., under the direction of Mr. Todd Bethune (Band) and Mr. Charles Russell (Choir). Please come and join us in celebration of Christ, our Lord Immanuel who came to dwell with us, that we might live with Him forever!



Pastor Kasper is Retiring! One of our former pastors, Rev. Robert Kasper, is retiring this December. His daughter, Anna, is putting together a surprise memory book filled with notes, stories, memories, and pictures of his time in ministry. If you would like to submit a special note or memory for this book, please reach out to Anna at annagremminger11@yahoo.com.





Join us Friday, March 6, 2026 at The Palazzo Grande for our **Annual Spring Gala and Silent Auction**. This wonderful event includes dinner, live entertainment, silent and live auction items, beautiful classroom projects made with love, and an all around amazing evening with our church and school community. All proceeds help our church and school minister to our students, staff, and entire church community.

Tickets are on sale starting December 1 at the cost of \$90 per person through December 19. Prices increase to \$110 per person after December 19. To purchase your tickets, please register online using the provided link. Be sure to complete the registration form, hit "Submit," and follow the instructions for payment. Tickets are only reserved once the online registration and payment have been received.

We love to support local small businesses and those of St. Peter families! If you own or know of a business interested in sponsorship

opportunities or you would like to donate items/experiences please check out the sponsorship information flier and fill out our google form. Please contact the Gala Committee at style="color: blue;">styl



ST. PETER MACOMB PRESENTS

Annual Toping Gala

SPONSORSHIP & DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Friday, March 6, 2026 The Palazzo Grande, Shelby Twp., MI 6:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.

GRAND EVENT TUITION SPONSOR - \$6,000

(**ONLY 1 A SOLD OUT !**)

- Featured sponsor of Tuition Raffle with the opportunity to present Tuition Raffle Winners with check at the event
- Sponsor Banner on display at the event
- · Champagne Toast for the table
- · 10 event tickets (full table)

- Individual "Grand Event Tuition Sponsor" banner displayed in the gym (2026-2027 school year)
- · Full page ad in event program
- Logo on event slideshow, step & repeat backdrop, and weekly school email (March-June)

LEGACY SPONSOR - \$5,000

(LIMITED AVAILABILITY)

- Champagne Toast for the table
- 10 event tickets (full table)
- Individual banner in the gym (2026-2027 school year)
- · Full page ad in event program
- Logo on event slideshow, step & repeat backdrop, and weekly school email (March-June)

GOLD SPONSOR - \$1,500

- All SILVER level recognition
- 2 event tickets
- Logo in event program, event slideshow, step & repeat backdrop, and weekly school email (March-June)

PATRIOT SPONSOR - \$3,000

- · All GOLD level recognition
- 6 event tickets
- · Logo on Patriot Banner in the gym (2026-2027 school year)
- · Half page ad in event program
- Logo on event slideshow, step & repeat backdrop, and weekly school email (March-June)

SILVER SPONSOR - \$500

- Recognition on auction website and St. Peter Macomb social media account
- Featured recognition at event

EVENT SPONSOR - \$1,000 EACH

EVENT SPONSORS receive featured recognition at sponsored station, logo/name in event program, verbal recognition at event, and online/social media recognition.

- · Bar Sponsor (2 available)
- Centerpiece Sponsor (3 available)
- Coat Check Sponsor (1 available)
- Dessert Table Sponsor (2 available)
- Live Auction Sponsor (1 available)
- Table Sponsors (recognition on 5 tables)
- Music/Entertainment Sponsor (3 available) Valet Sponsor (1 sold outles)
- Silent Auction Sponsor (2 available)
- Staff Appreciation Sponsor (1 available)

OTHER DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

- · Individual items (\$25 minimum value)
- Gift baskets (\$75 minimum value)
- Gift certificates (entertainment, hotel or resort accommodations, restaurants, salon and/or spa package

Ready to sponsor or donate!

Scan here to fill out our form https://forms.gle/m54bMgNgqa6bL39R7



Thank you for your continued support!

For additional questions or information, email stpetergala@splcs.net or contact Bethany Blanchard (586) 764-9515.

Education

SOCK DRIVE!

From Nov. 23 until Dec. 21, we are collecting new packaged socks for Macomb Charitable Foundation.

Looking for kids and adult sizes.

Drop off at His Rock!

Morning Meet Up

11

Enjoy a hot, yummy breakfast at His Rock 6:30 a.m.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

DECEMBER EVENTS

DAY OF SERVICE

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS AT HIS ROCK 3:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.

HOT COCOA DAY



14



ENJOY HOMEMADE HOT COCOA WITH ALL THE TOPPINGS!

NO RECHARGE: Dec. 28

CHRISTMAS PARTY

21

3:00-5:00 P.M. SOCKIN' AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE!

-BRING A FUN PAIR OF SOCKS FOR SOCK EXCHANGE!





"That They May Have Life"

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

6th-12th grade students and parents:

The Lutherans For Life Council of Federation Presidents sponsors an essay contest each year for students in two grade categories: 6th–8th grade and 9th-12th grade.

This contest is available for students in all states who attend a Lutheran school or a Lutheran church. Please see the link here for the topic and essay guidelines: https://lutheransforlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/2026-Michigan-Essay-Contest-Rules-pdf.pdf

As each school or congregation may send in ONE entry, your **St. Peter Lutheran Life Team** is sponsoring an Essay Contest!

Students, please submit your essays to **Amanda Grafilo** at **amandalynn1480@gmail.com** by <u>Friday, January 30, 2026</u> for consideration. The Life Team will review all essay submissions during February and will choose the winning essays (one from each age group) to represent St. Peter in the LFL State Competition! The Life Team will email the winning entries to Lauren Schaidt of Michigan LFL by February 28, 2026.

The student with the **winning essay** from each age group will receive a \$50 Amazon gift card and the Life Team will make a \$50 donation in the student's name to the pregnancy center of their choice. There are also prizes at the State and National level for the winners.

We look forward to reading all of the submissions and thank you all for being empowered and Gospel-motivated voices for Life, from conception to eternity!



For Life Team questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Carol at (586) 321-9500 or carolpoterek@gmail.com.

lutheransforlife.org | www.lflmi.org | Check us out on Facebook!

HISTORY CORNER



It is important to remember that St. Peter History is not meant to show how great St. Peter is, but how amazing God is as He works through His Word and Sacraments among us. History is His story. Our History is a Ministry that proclaims His great deeds to future generations.

Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, sing and make music in your heart to the Lord. Ephesians 5:19

The Historical Committee wishes everyone a Blessed Christmas and a Wonderful 2026.



1986 Adult Choir



1991 Youth Choir



2004 Choir & Band



2004 Bell Choir



2010 Men's Choir



2010 School Choir



Rev. Kurt Wenzelburger Senior Pastor



Rev. Dante Pronsati
Associate Pastor



Mr. Charles Russell Traditional Worship Director



Mrs. Angela Schepmann Student Ministry Assistant



Mrs. Nicki Wargo School Ministry & Sunday School Director



Mr. Robert W. Costa

Modern Worship &

Communications Director

Mrs. Sandra LaPerriere

Principal



Mr. Steve Ameel Assistant Principal



Mrs. Robyn Adams
Early Childhood Director

ST. PETER'S VALUES

Our Mission Statement:

To glorify God by making and growing disciples of Jesus

Christ

Matthew 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of age.

Articles for **January Keynotes** must be submitted <u>before 4:00 p.m. on December 15</u>. **Please submit all articles for consideration by email** to Allison Costa at acosta@splcs.net.

All submissions should include your contact information. Please submit articles without formatting (table, text boxes, etc.) in a Word document. Thank you!



17051 24 Mile Road, Macomb, Michigan 48042 Church: (586) 781-3434 School: (586) 781-9296 StPeterMacomb.com

Worship Service Times:

Saturday 6:00 p.m. Traditional Sunday 8:00 a.m. Traditional Sunday 9:30 a.m. Traditional Sunday 11:00 a.m. Modern

Please visit **StPeterMacomb.com** to see other opportunities to worship through Sunday School, Bible studies, small groups and more!

St. Peter Lutheran Church and School is a member congregation of The LCMS.