

THE

MARCH

St. Peter's
United Methodist Church

2026

T

R

U

M

P

E

T

Lent at St. Peter's

Wednesday's through April 1
Bible Study - 12:00 - 1:00 PM

March 29 - Palm Sunday
Jerusalem Worship w/ Palms - 10:00 AM

April 2 - Holy Thursday Worship - 7:00 PM

April 3 - Good Friday
Contemplative Prayer Service - 7:00 PM

April 5 - Sunrise Service at St. Peter's Cemetery - 7:00 AM
Breakfast immediately following

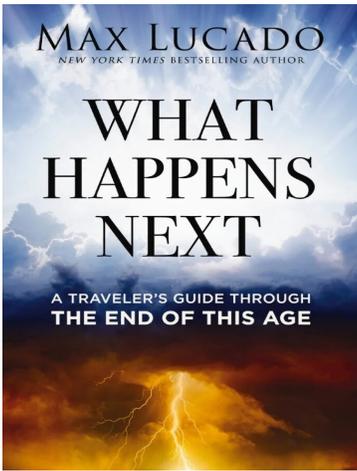
Resurrection Celebration Worship - 10:00 AM



PRAYER CONCERNS: **Missionaries:** Our covenant missionaries to the Congo: Gaston Nkulu Ntambo **Our Military:** Matt Chapman, Madison Siple, Ayden Carter **Children:** Taylor Macaulay, Gavin Yonce, Jackson Andrews, Teddy D.

Prayer Requests: Denny Waldrop, David Forlines, Bob Roberts, Patty Shortridge, Bernie Stanley, Cameron Smith, Chris McClain, Ellen Stanley, Ryan Spencer, Hayden Smith, Tim Davidson

Always in Our Prayers: Pastor Gretchen and family



Ladies Bible Study

The Ladies' Bible Study will meet on Thursday mornings from 10:00 -11:30 beginning March 5 in the church parlor. The book we are studying is "What Happens Next" by Max Lucado. We plan to meet during March, April, and May. Judy Kimmel will lead this study.

Please join us. All are welcome!

Sign up at church or text Ruth Smith @ 804-216-1260

March Birthdays

March 8



Dwayne Kahler	2
Ben Gilman	9
Madison Siple	11
Kathy Sullivan	12
Anne Vig	13
Phyllis Wiggins	13
Alice Marie Steele	14
Jean Davis	16
Bobbie Tyree	16
Katie Pollock	20
Mandy Nevius	23

ST. PETERS UMC FINANCIAL INFORMATION	JANUARY 2026	YEAR TO DATE
Donations to the Budget Account	\$19,782.00	\$19,782.00
Transferred from Savings	None	None
Budget Account expenses	\$20,570.00	\$20,570.00
Gain/Loss	-\$789.00	-\$789.00

**Young Adults
Small Group**

Who: Open to anyone ages 17-30
Facilitated by Sarah & Noah Parks
What & Why? A regular gathering to make connections and grow in our spiritual lives

When: Tuesday nights, 7-8:30 pm

Where: Sarah & Noah's house
Bumpass, VA (text Sarah for address)

How to participate: text Sarah @ 434-282-8493 for information!



Join us for Sunday School through Lent!

Adult Sunday School and Youth Sunday School will meet at 9:00 AM before the 10:00 Worship Service.

Men's Group News

Next Meeting: We'll gather for our regular Men's Group meeting on **Saturday, March 14th at 8am at Kitchen 33 & Bakery**. Come enjoy breakfast, fellowship, and a conversation about our ongoing and upcoming projects. These meetings are intentionally brief—just enough time to connect, encourage one another, and strengthen our bonds as Christian men.

Luncheon: Our bi-monthly luncheon meets on the **third Friday** of every other month. The next one is scheduled for **Friday, March 20th at 1pm at The Eagles Nest Restaurant at The Federal Club**. The food is good, and the fellowship is even better. And remember—if you show up, we're *less* likely to talk about you. Actually, that's not true... we'll still talk about you even if you're there!

Wheelchair Ramp Ministry: We currently have **six ramps installed**, and we've recently added another ramp to our inventory—what a blessing. If you know someone who needs a temporary wheelchair ramp, please reach out.

Firewood Ministry: We've made several deliveries to WHEAT clients in need of firewood. Also, our group harvested multiple trees donated by a community member and **split tons of firewood together**, helping us rebuild our supply and continue serving families who rely on wood heat.

Church Maintenance: Our members have completed several maintenance projects around the church and even helped a WHEAT client restore heat during those cold February days.

Ongoing Support: We continue to assist with small repairs and maintenance needs for individuals in our church and community. If you or someone you know needs help, please let us know.

Donations: If you'd like to support the Men's Group financially, you can:

- Write a check to **St. Peter's UMC** with "**Men's Group**" in the memo line
- Visit the church website, click **GIVE**, enter your amount, and select "**Men's Group**" from the drop-down menu

Place a donation in the offering plate with a note marked "**Men's Group**"

Subscribe:

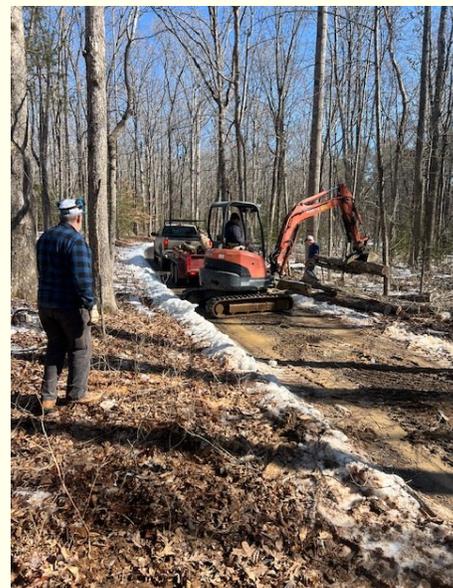
Want to stay informed? Join our mailing list by clicking the link below.

[Click here to subscribe](#)

We'd love to have you join us for any meeting or project. No special skills required—just a willingness to share in fellowship and service.

If you have questions, contact us at MenOfStPeters@stpetersumc.org or call **Butch at 804-496-1399**.

May God continue to bless us all!





Cub Scout Pack 706 Fundraiser

Locally-grown flowers and herbs perfect for your garden or kitchen!

Every purchase you make directly supports our scouts. Browse our selection and find the perfect flowers or herbs for you.

By shopping with us, you help us achieve our goals and positively impact our community. Thank you for supporting our mission — your contribution is invaluable.

To order, click the QR code or visit:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/cub-scout-pack-706-spring-flower-and-herb-fundraiser>



MISSIONS AT ST. PETER'S

*Hello All,
I want to say thank you for blessing myself and my family this Christmas. Seeing the smiles on their faces was the best thing in the world! We will never forget this! Stay blessed. - The Winstons (Family St. Peter's sponsored for Christmas gifts)*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Join us on Sunday, May 3, for our annual Rise Against Hunger mission as we package meals. As we prepare for this event, we are raising funds to support this cause. If you would like to make a donation, please note on the memo line of your check or envelope, "Rise Against Hunger". If giving online, select "Donations for Missions". Please contact the church office if you have any questions at 804-883-5596.



TREATS FOR SUNDAY'S

We need volunteers to provide snacks/treats for Sunday's for March 15 through May 10. Treats can include cookies, donuts, vegetables, protein, snack bars or a surprise of your own! If you need funding assistance to provide for snacks, please reach out to the church office. Thank you all for your support!

UPDATES FROM PASTOR GRETCHEN

Youth Sunday school through Lent. 9:00 AM

Lent worship series:

Paul's Travels: Journey from Head to Heart

Exploring the historical contexts of Paul's letters and journeys as we connect them to our Lenten faith journey.

Focus Scripture: Acts 13:2-3

"As they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Appoint Barnabas and Saul to the work I have called them to undertake.' After they fasted and prayed, they laid their hands on these two and sent them off."

Come experience these ancient cities and what Paul offered them in his letters. Let them inspire a holy Lent in your heart and life.

Holy Week Experiences — March 29-April 5

Palm Sunday, 10:00 AM Jerusalem Worship with Palms

Wednesday, Bible Study 12:00 -1:00 PM

Holy Thursday, Worship 7:00 PM

Good Friday, Contemplative Prayer Service 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday,

7:00 AM Sunrise Service at St. Peter's Cemetery

Breakfast immediately following

10:00 AM Resurrection Celebration Worship

Lenten Devotion

Each Wednesday in Lent an email will be sent to St. Peter's list including a moment for reflection and prayer in support of this faithful season. Watch for a midweek pause.

Lenten Bible Study — NOW through April 1

All are invited to come together on **Wednesdays at Noon** for a lunch hour Bible Study. Together we are exploring how Jesus' resurrection shakes our world and inspires our faith walk. Gather in person in St. Peter's parlor and by Zoom from work or home lunch break. Link available on request from Pastor Gretchen. Drop in any or all Wednesdays.

Game Night returns!

Come out for an intergenerational evening of fun fellowship in holy play. Third Fridays starting March 20th. 5:00 - 7:00 PM. St. Peter's Fellowship Hall.

Every age welcome. Bring a friend, a neighbor, and your whole crew. Bring a snack to share. Experience community connection with joy!!!

Community Fellowship Dinner

Welcome all for an evening of table fellowship. Save the date for April 1st.

Watch for details coming soon.

PASTOR PONDERINGS

Here we are, in a holy Season of Lent. Forty days devoted to growing with God as a disciple; intentionally focusing on developing our relationships with God and one another. A time of preparation for a rich resurrection celebration at Easter. Forty days, a number found in Scripture to be associated with times of intense spiritual preparation and transition.

Christian Liturgical practice observes a calendar containing several different seasons. Each are what author Rev. Trevor Hudson describes as "time-gifts" that church offers to help us participate more fully in what God has done and is doing in human history. We are most familiar with are Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost - seasons when we focus on Jesus' birth, Jesus' resurrection, and Holy Spirit gifted to guide us. These sacred gifts of time give special attention to unique events in our relationship with Christ.

Lent is one of these "time-gifts" when we have a wonderful opportunity to make space for reflecting on our lives and personal connections, to become more intentional disciples with Jesus on The Way. We are welcomed into a season centered on the transforming characteristics of Jesus' death and resurrection. This forty day journey leads us into Holy Week, Three spiritual practices are encouraged during Lent. Coming from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6: generous living and giving, prayer, and fasting. Walking with Jesus during this time-gift of Lent is an occasion to deepen in relationships with Jesus Christ who lives beyond crucifixion. Lent is a season to honor new life growing with Jesus and one another. Almighty God who is alive and active in this world, welcomes all into this "time-gift". May your journey inspire courageous love. May this season be filled with renewing hope. Blessings for a holy Lent.

Pastor Gretchen

From District emails:
Celtic Worship at Duncan Memorial
Thursdays in Lent. 5:50 PM

Gun Violence Prevention Forum March 11

Introducing New DS Grace Han

Lay Leader Gathering March 21

Lent Pilgrimage March 14

UWF Lenten Prayer Breakfast March 14



Our classroom was bursting with hearts, hugs, and happy faces as we celebrated **Valentine's Day**. The children loved sharing cards, and our families did an amazing job helping create the most adorable Valentine boxes. Creativity was everywhere.

We spent time talking about **feelings**, learning how to name them, and understand them. Then we jumped into learning about **past and present presidents**, discovering what a big job it is to lead a country. We even held our own class vote — for our **favorite cookies**. Democracy has never been so delicious.

Math got hands-on as we **sorted money** and used it in our very own classroom market. The kids shopped for groceries like little pros. And of course, our **circus theme** brought out everyone's silly side. There was plenty of clowning around, balancing acts, and giggles galore.

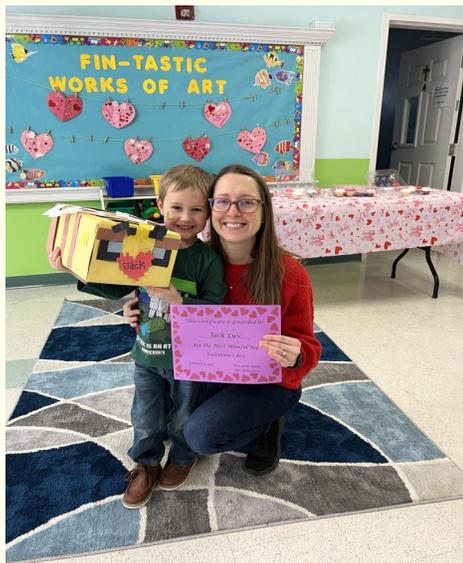
We're gearing up for **Dr. Seuss Week** then we'll dive into fairy tales, rhyme our way through nursery rhymes, and let our imaginations run wild. With **St. Patrick's Day** on the horizon, we'll be trying our luck at **catching a sneaky leprechaun** and making bright, beautiful rainbows in hopes of finding that pot of gold.

We'll wrap up the month learning about **Easter** and enjoying a cheerful Easter egg hunt — always a classroom favorite.

Attention Parents: We will be **closed for Spring Break from March 30–April 6**.

 For **St. Patrick's Day**, remember to wear **green** and pack a **green fruit or vegetable** to share with classmates. Let's make it a magically green day.

Join us **March 27** at 11:45 for the children's **Easter Egg Hunt and Party**.





St. Peter's United Methodist Church
15599 Mountain Road
Montpelier, Virginia 23192
Phone: 804/883-5596
E-mail: stpetersumc@gmail.com

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

OUR VISION STATEMENT

We envision our church welcoming all people, encouraging a journey of faith, and serving the world in the name of Christ.



Prayer of St Patrick

CHRIST BE WITH ME, CHRIST WITHIN ME,
CHRIST BEHIND ME, CHRIST BEFORE ME,
CHRIST BESIDE ME, CHRIST TO WIN ME,
CHRIST TO COMFORT ME AND RESTORE ME.
CHRIST BENEATH ME, CHRIST ABOVE ME,
CHRIST IN QUIET, CHRIST IN DANGER,
CHRIST IN HEARTS OF ALL THAT LOVE ME,
CHRIST IN MOUTH OF FRIEND
OR STRANGER

