



December 10, 2017

The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God by:

Dick and Leona Keel honoring their anniversary

Remember the baby bottle donations for Answer for Pregnancy? The total of your donations was approx \$400!!!

If you would like to donate to a Christmas gift for Pastor Ahlersmeyer and Melissa you can turn that in with your regular offering envelopes.

CHOIR – will practice after all of the Advent services. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!**. We will sing at 11 pm Christmas Eve Service.

TODAY!!! -Annual Christmas Dinner: Sunday Dec. 10th after 2nd service. **Please sign up to come & to donate a dish.** Sign-up sheet in welcome center! Also a surprise visit from Santa.

“HO, HO, HO, MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!” This is Santa Claus reminding you that I will be at your Christmas dinner Dec. 10th passing treats out to all. I do have a favor asking that you bring an unwrapped toy to donate for kids less fortunate. I want to share a prayer of mine with you: **“Lord, You know that You’re the reason I take pleasure in this season. I don’t want to take Your place, but just reflect Your wondrous grace. I hope You’ll help them understand I’m just an ordinary man who found a way to do Your will by finding kids with needs to fill. But all those centuries ago there was no way for me to know that they would make so much of me, and all the gifts beneath the tree. They think I have some hidden power granted at the midnight hour, but it is my love for You inspiring the things I do. And so when they begin to open gifts for which they have been hoping, may they give You all the glory for You’re the One True Christmas story.”**

Well ‘til Dec 10th take care and I hope to see you there.

Ladies: “The gifts I’d leave beneath your tree, Aren’t those that you can touch or see! Not wrapped in Christmas tissue gay but gifts to bless you every day! The gift of friendship warm and true is one that I would leave for you!”... Join us at our next Gab ‘n Eat for lunch 12noon on Sat. Dec. 16th at The Merrillville Tea Room 7005 Madison, Merrillville ...“Good health and happiness and cheer to keep you smiling through the year! The gift of peace that comes from God with prayer to guide each path you trod; and when your heart has lost its song: The gift of hope to cheer you on! These are the gifts I’d leave for you!” Sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center! Carpool: 11:30AM (bring a \$5.00 grab bag gift -only if you want to)

“MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL”

December 17, Sunday School Family Christmas Party after the late service. Please sign up at the Welcome Center that you can attend so we can plan for food and games. Please attend!



If you would like to purchase flowers for the front of the church for Christmas. Please sign up at the welcome center. Poinsettias are \$10 for 6 inch pot. Please keep the plants here until after second service on December 24. Please **print** your name, and thanks or memoriam. Mark your check “Christmas Flowers” Deadline to order is Dec 14

We Need Your Help! In order to keep our budget manageable, we have been having members clean the church rather than hire a service. A rather small group of volunteers has been handling this for quite a while. **If you could sign up to clean just once in a while, it would be a great blessing!** Put together a team from your friends and family! “Many hands make light labor!”

Our church food pantry is running low and the need for items is great. Please take advantage of food store sales to pick up an item or two as you do your weekly shopping to help maintain a food supply for people less able to purchase food.

Garbage to Goodies: Please collect plastic bottle tops from milk gallons, drinks, water etc. Also card fronts, stamps, pop tops and Campbell Soup labels. Turn them in at the bookshelf in the hallway in the old narthex. Plastic tops go to an organization in Valparaiso that makes benches!!! Please save your pop cans and turn them in to the recycle center here at the church. Those donations go to the church!

Speaking of benches made from plastic caps, Joleen Wilson said St. Peter is on the list to receive a bench made from our donated caps and lids. The benches are made in Evansville.

You Never Know when your donation to the church's food pantry will be a blessing to someone. Your food and personal items are given to congregation members who are in need. We are now asking for additional donations to re-stock items.

Important Dates to Remember

Sunday, December 10, Christmas Dinner following the second service.

Tuesday, December 12, Council 7 pm

Wednesday, December 13. Community Dinner 5:30 PM Advent Service 7 PM Choir Practice

Saturday, Dec. 16th 12 noon Gab 'n Eat for lunch at The Merrillville Tea Room 7005 Madison, Merrillville

Sunday, December 17, at 10:00 am between services, Voters Meeting to vote on officers and budget for next year.

Sunday School Christmas Party 12:10 PM – see sign up

Wednesday, December 20, Community Dinner 5:30 PM Advent Service 7 PM Choir Practice

Sunday, December 24, 9 and 11 am morning service and 7 pm and 11 pm Christmas Eve Candle Light Service

Sunday, December 31, services 9 and 11 PM

Last Sunday's Offering

Envelopes are available at the bulletin table for donations to the Parking Lot Fund & for the Mortgage

Offering \$3,761.50 (weekly need \$3,023 operating budget)

Mortgage \$1,502.50 (weekly need \$640)

SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY

9:00

11:00

Greeter:

Lector Jim Wells

Victoria Luster-Bartz

Ushers: Marty Riley

Bob Duron

This Week at St. Peter : Dec 10-17, 2017

Sunday Early Service 9 a.m. Nursery provided ages 0-2 yrs

Sunday School and Adult Bible Study 10 a.m.

Late Service 11 a.m. **Christmas Dinner after the late service**

Tuesday..... **Council 7 pm**

Wednesday..... **Community Dinner 5:30 pm and Advent Service 7:00 pm, Choir Practice following the service**

Thursday..... Praise Team practice 7 p.m.

Saturday..... **12 noon Gab 'n Eat for lunch at The Merrillville Tea Room 7005 Madison, Merrillville**

Sunday Early Service 9 a.m. Nursery provided ages 0-2 yrs

Sunday School 10 **VOTERS MEETING** 10 am

Late Service 11 a.m. **Sunday School Christmas Party 12:10 PM**

Visit the church's Facebook page for up to date information including

CANCELLATIONS - www.stpeterportage.com

Pastor Ben Ahlersmeyer - cell number 989-907-9481 Church office - 762-2673

Email - pastorben@stpeterportage.com

REMEMBERING IN OUR PRAYERS

John Gallagher, Ruth Imhof, Donna Flint-Wood, Ginnie Galanos, Connie Carney, Howard and Deb Wilson, Joleen Wilson, Mike Lemond, Matthew McCall, Karen Ackermann, John Spencer, Brenda and Bob Busch, Kenita Kersten, John Newlin, Tiffany Richards, Betty and Dick Hull, Donna Potchen, Michael Cooper, Tina Gurniewicz, Loraine Giertz, Dorothy Anderson, Cathy Laatsch, Lindsay Hietz, Kathy and Tom Levandoski, Jane Krohn, Phoebe Wilson, Pat Newlin, Pauline and Mark Krill, and the many people in our congregation who are battling serious illnesses; and those grieving the loss of loved ones and those in harm's way thru natural disasters or through the evil actions of others.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Claira Thaxton	12/13	Audrey Wilocki	12/29
Kelly Berquist	12/1	Kelly Edwards	12/14
Nancy Gobin	12/1	Jane Krohn	12/15
Sandy Barden	12/3	Julia Rex	12/15
Gabby Santaquilani	12/3	Halie Minard	12/17
Charlene Uhles	12/5	Erica Harnung	12/18
Jeffery Camp Sr.	12/7	Phoebe Wilson	12/21
Jennifer Santaquilani	12/7	Susan Lackey	12/22
Joseph Blackwell	12/11	Ro Guerrero	12/23
Paul Fuscoe	12/12	Tiffany Richards	12/23
Pam Hass	12/12	Amanda Maynard	12/26
Virginia Galanos	12/13	Lisa (Carroll)Forshey	12/27