

The

Fisherman

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

3751 Estero Blvd.

E.L.C.A.

Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Phone: 239-463-4251



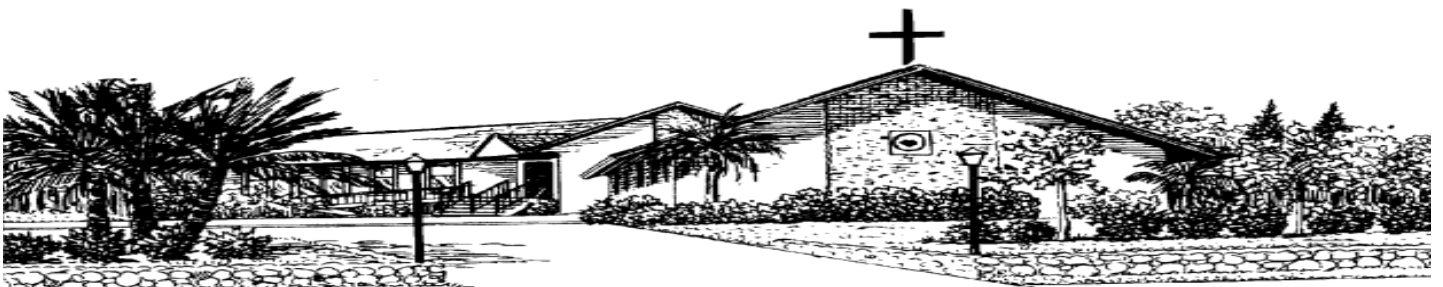
April
2023

Pastor – Rev. Sharon Taylor

St. Peter Lutheran Church ELCA

PO Box 07310

Fort Myers, FL 33919



STAFF

Pastor – Rev. Sharon Taylor

Office Administrator – Trudy Archer

Organist/Choir Director – Jim Kreger

Artist in Residence/Pianist – Shirley Roe

Digital Ministry Coordinator – Deacon Lisa Miller

WEBSITE: www.stpeterfmb.com

Email: Stpeterfmb@gmail.com

Facebook – St. Peter Lutheran ELCA, Fort Myers Beach

YouTube – St Peter Lutheran Church Ft Myers Beach

Go to the website and click the YouTube icon.

OFFICE INFORMATION **Please keep us informed** if you move, change your phone number or email address! We want to let you know what's going on here, so being able to reach you is important!

EITHER E-MAIL OR SEND TO OUR PO BOX

stpeterfmb@gmail.com

St. Peter ELCA
PO Box 07310
Fort Myers, FL 33919

Pastor Sharon's Sharings

Finding Joy in the Waiting Time

During the last two months we have been worshiping on Sundays in the St Peter parking lot. Sitting in our lawn chairs next to our damaged Lau Hall, it is a rustic setting, to say the least.



Yet, God is there! We can feel it. We can see God as we look across the exposed landscape to the beautiful gulf.

What I love most is the collection of people (and dogs) who are gathered each week. We host our local island neighbors. We host members of Beach Methodist and Chapel of the Sea.

In this informal setting, denominations and church membership and buildings don't matter. In this worship we are united in Christ and in our desire to worship God together on the island.

Whatever God has in mind for the churches of the island, it seems that this partnership is a gift to us and the wider community now and perhaps into a new future.

As we continue to discern and discuss the way forward, let us give thanks for the Body of Christ here and across the world.

*Blessed Easter,
Pastor Sharon Taylor*

UPCOMING *Events*

Saturday morning worship Every Saturday
St Peter worship 10am at Peace Lutheran

Sunday morning worship
Outdoor worship in St. Peter parking lot
Every Sunday through April

Maundy Thursday April 6, 2023
7:00 pm with Peace Lutheran

Good Friday April 7, 2023, St. Peter parking lot - noon
Bring a chair!

Easter Sunday April 9, 2023 St Peter parking lot 8:30am
Bring a chair!

TOTES OF GRACE RETURNS!!

We are going to try starting up Totes of Grace again. The first giveaway was March 29, so we'll see how it goes for a few months. We are hoping that folks will be able to get to us and pick up these needed items to help make it through the tough times so many are facing. Photos to follow.



HERE ARE THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE QUOTES FROM MARTIN LUTHER

"One book is enough, but a thousand books is not too many!"

"There never have been, nor are there now, too many good books."



Combined Luncheon Lunch Bunch/ROMEOs

April Lunch Bunch/ROMEO's will be
Wednesday, April 26 at 11:30 am
PARROT KEY

For reservations, please phone Jana Clevenger at
(317) 753-1510

UPDATES

Soul Tending on the Beach

Meditation and spiritual conversation

Mondays 830-9:30am

On the beach directly across from St Peter Lutheran.
Bring your own beach chair.

SCAN IN ORDER TO MAKE YOUR OFFERING ONLINE!!

We now have a QR code that you can use to get to our online payment option. Just use the QR reader app on your phone and it will take you to the online donations.



What we'd like to hear in church

- Hey, it's my turn to sit in the front pew!
- I was so enthralled, I never noticed your sermon ran longer than usual.
- I'll volunteer to be the permanent junior high Sunday school teacher.
- I love it when we sing hymns I've never heard before.
- Because we're all here, let's start the worship service early.
- Pastor, we'd like to send you to this Bible seminar in the Bahamas.
- Nothing inspires me and strengthens my commitment like our annual stewardship campaign.



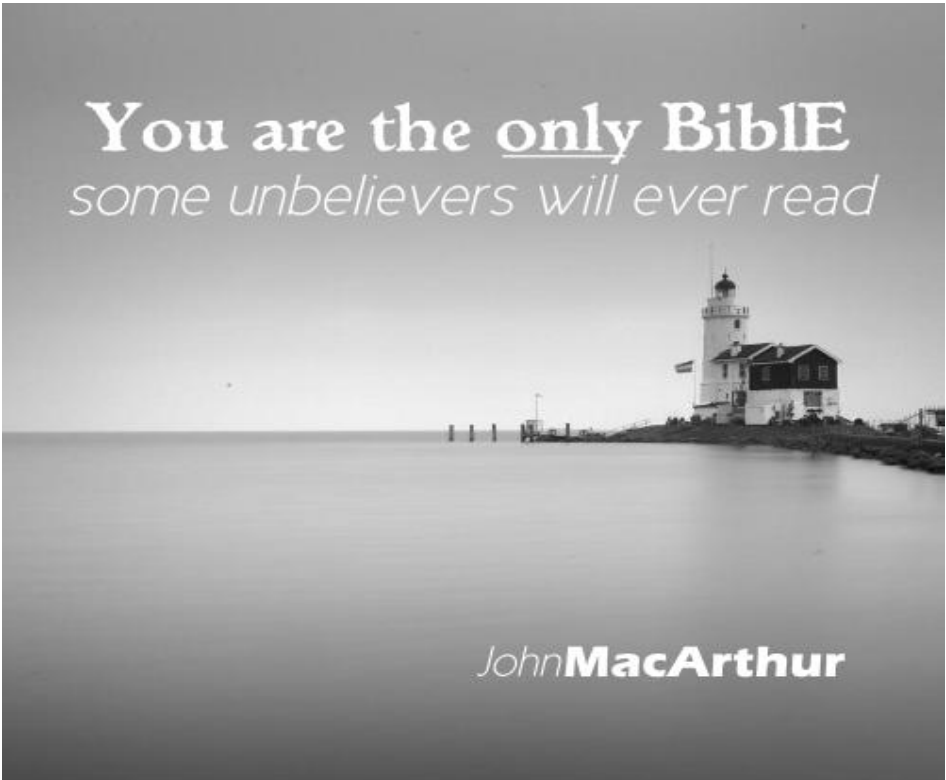
Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Apr 3	John Torstveit	Apr 12	Arlene Burm
Apr 4	Virginia Hunt	Apr 13	Fran Nielsen
	Owen Kurtz		Mary Anne Maiser
Apr 7	Fred Keeton	Apr 15	Becky Grothe
Apr 8	Paul Grothe	Apr 16	Bob Stenerson

ANNIVERSARIES

- Apr 1 John & Candy Palmer
- Apr 6 Scott & Charlene Grabow





W.E.L.C.A.



Anne Myrtle Circle

*“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust him,
so the you may overflow with hope and power by the Holy Spirit”*

Romans 15:30

Thank you for donations for Harvest Time Ministries to purchase PB&J and donations for Blankets to give warmth to people throughout the world that need basic needs.

If you or you know anyone that could use a prayer shawl please contact the church office and we will make sure they receive a prayer shawl so they can feel God’s comforting hands around them.

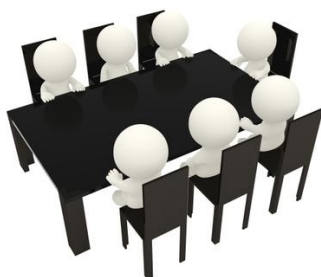
Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 11th at 9:30 am.

The Lunch Bunch will be going to Parrot Key at 11:30 am on Wednesday April 26th. Please reserve with Jana Clevenger.

God’s Blessings,

Marilyn Torstveit and Diane Allen

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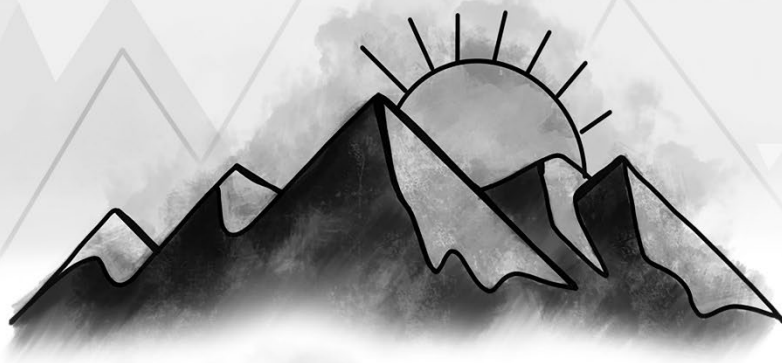


The March Council Minutes won’t be approved until the meeting on April 20.

ANNUAL MEETING AND DISCERNMENT DISCUSSION

On March 25 the Annual Meeting of the Congregation was held. A quorum was verified. All reports, minutes and treasurer's reports were accepted by the congregation. Trudy Archer and Jim Kreger were nominated and approved to be our representatives at Synod Assembly in June. The meeting was adjourned and we then proceeded to have a light lunch prior to Rev. Khader El-Yateem, Assistant to the Bishop, opening a discussion on how we might move forward as a congregation. He presented a slide show asking us to think about what God wants for us, who is our neighbor, what is the makeup of our congregation, who could we strategically partner with and do our facilities meet our needs.

The meeting can be seen on our YouTube page. The link to the YouTube page is on our website - www.stpeterfmb.com.



Pursue
righteousness, godliness,
FAITH, *love, steadfastness,*
gentleness.

1 Timothy 6:11 ESV

From Church Council President

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In Peter's Second Letter, he insisted we "not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you." What exactly does this mean? I would suggest that God isn't late with his promise as some measure of lateness. He has his own sense of timing and rather than rush forward to some end, God is holding back because of us. He's giving us the space and time to change. He is allowing us to discern what the future will look like for St. Peter Lutheran on Ft. Myers Beach.

On Saturday, March 25th over 30 members and friends participated in a discussion facilitated by Rev. Khader El-Yateem, the Director for Evangelical Mission and Assistant to the Bishop (South Region) from the Florida-Bahamas Synod. It was a productive working lunch as we made our first steps forward in discernment. It was clear that we are all anxious to get going. Yet, no one is totally sure what we should do.

It was evident from the discussion that there is much to consider. The future of St. Peter is not well defined and there is much to consider. Repairs will not be easily accomplished. It is much more complex than just repairing the building, as much depends on what the City of Ft. Myers Beach will permit us to do. As you may have read, the city is working to determine what will be allowed and not allowed. This is dependent upon many factors, such as the appraised value of each building, the determination of what parts of the building must be brought to current code, the new flood zones that went into effect in November, the structural soundness of each building independently, etc. While we do have a preliminary structural engineering report, it was paid for by the insurance company and may or may not have found all damages and necessary repairs. As part of our contract with Keys Claims, window experts and other engineers will perform additional assessments of our buildings. This will put St. Peter in the best position so we can move forward.

Again, I would like to thank you for your support. We appreciate your patience and welcome your prayers. We must continue to prayerfully consider what God has planned in God's time while we continue our journey. Progress is being made and some recent steps are as follows:

- A settlement of \$500,000 (policy maximum) building and \$140,000 contents was received from flood claim.
- Keys Claims Consultants, LLC, has made a preliminary visit to the site and begun their documentation process to assist with furthering our wind claim.
- Council has begun the process of obtaining quotes for electrical work to get power hooked back up to the sanctuary.
- A discernment conversation was held on March 25th with Pastor El-Yateem.
- Council has obtained two roofing quotes.
- Council has met on site with a general contractor and architect and are awaiting preliminary repair costs.
- Sunday parking lot services were held in March and will continue through April.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

In Christ,

Dr. Jason Kurtz, Council President



Puzzle!

Search for and circle all the bold words from Psalm 18:2, which reminds us where we find our strength.

The **LORD** is **MY ROCK**, my **FORTRESS** and my **DELIVERER**; my **GOD** is my rock, in whom I **TAKE REFUGE**. **HE** is my **SHIELD** and the **HORN** of my **SALVATION**, my **STRONGHOLD**.

S	T	R	O	N	G	H	O	L	D	T	S
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R	E	F	U	G	E	I	Y	N	T	V	L
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K	Y	U	X	O	C	N	O	O	Y	Q	S
X	H	X	A	R	K	L	R	C	N	H	Y
G	O	D	T	D	K	A	D	K	U	D	X

GOD ROCKS!

2023 – CHURCH OFFICERS & COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT..... Dr. Jason Kurtz

VICE PRESIDENT.....Mark Venturin

SECRETARYArlene Burm

Interim Treasurer.....Jana Clevenger

MEMBERS:

Rhona Diamond - Lynn Larson -Jim Look

A NOTE FROM THE OFFICE -

Please make sure you notify your bank or financial advisor if you send your donations through them. We are already six months from Ian (??? Still seems like last week, doesn't it) and we can only get forwarding from our Beach address to our PO box for a year. Some of them are still using our old address and it takes forever for it to forward. In a short period of time, they will not forward at all.

Also, please remember to keep us updated with your current address , phone number & e-mail address!

April

2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<div>1</div> <div>Worship at Peace</div> <div>10:00 am</div>
<div>2</div> <div>Worship at the Beach</div> <div>8:30 am</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Soul Tending on the Beach</div> <div>8 am</div>	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Spiritual Support Group</div> <div>9:30-10:30 am</div> <div>St. Peter Parking Lot</div>	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div>	<div>8</div> <div>No Service at Peace</div>
<div>9</div> <div>Easter Sunday</div> <div>Worship at the Beach</div> <div>8:30 am</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Soul Tending on the Beach</div> <div>8 am</div>	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Spiritual Support Group</div> <div>9:30-10:30 am</div> <div>St. Peter Parking Lot</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Church Council</div>	<div>14</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Worship at Peace</div> <div>10:00 am</div>
<div>16</div> <div>Worship at the Beach</div> <div>8:30 am</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Soul Tending on the Beach</div> <div>8 am</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div> <div>Totes of Grace 10-2</div> <div>Spiritual Support Group</div> <div>9:30-10:30 am</div> <div>St. Peter Parking Lot</div>	<div>20</div>	<div>21</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Worship at Peace</div> <div>10:00 am</div>
<div>23</div> <div>Worship at the Beach</div> <div>8:30 am</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Soul Tending on the Beach</div> <div>8 am</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div> <div>Spiritual Support Group</div> <div>9:30-10:30 am</div> <div>St. Peter Parking Lot</div> <div>Lunch Bunch 11:30 am</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Worship at Peace</div> <div>10:00 am</div>
<div>30</div> <div>Worship at the Beach</div> <div>8:30 am</div>						