

The

Fisherman

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church



December 2023



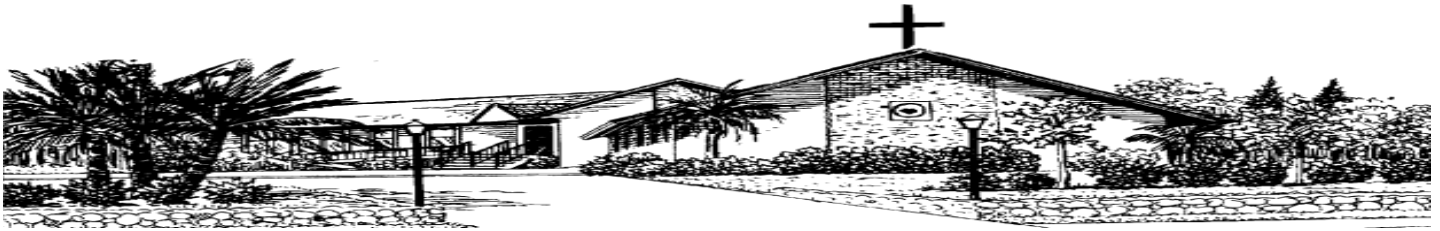
St. Peter Lutheran Church ELCA

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Fort Myers, FL 33919

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STAFF

Pastor – Rev. Bill Stehr (941)266-3377

Office Administrator – Trudy Archer

Organist/Choir Director – Jim Kreger

Digital Ministry Coordinator – Deacon Lisa Miller

WEBSITE: www.stpeterfmb.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

Our QR Code – Scan to make a donation!



We are back at Fort Myers Beach! We are all enjoying our new services “under the big top” in our parking lot! We have had around 70 folks for each service from almost all the congregations who have lost their church homes on the Island (I always capitalize Beach and/or Island when talking about FMB specifically). Pastor Bill Stehr has been a blessing for us all with messages of hope and strength for us.

Remember – ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Pets also!

Tell everyone!

Anniversary Meeting – Dec. 3, 2023
Immediately following worship

“Carry out a random act of kindness,
with no expectation of reward.”
–Princess Diana



From the Worship and Music Committee

MARTIN LUTHER QUOTES

*"God writes the gospel not in the Bible alone,
but on trees and flowers and clouds and stars."*

"The fewer the words, the better the prayer."



“When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark,
you don't throw away the ticket and jump off.
You sit still and trust the engineer.”



Corrie Ten Boom



Carol Dahlin 12/01

Ann Gemenden 12/13

Gwyneth Kurtz 12/02

Jim Albinger 12/13

Jackie Dawson 12/03

Sharon Turner 12/13

Diane Baldrige 12/08

Bill Arendt 12/21

Jim Kreger 12/08

Jack Hyssong 12/22

Bill Palmer 12/11

Mary Ann Spengler 12/25



Richard & Dierdre Hagstrom 12/17

Peter & Ann Wheatley 12/23

George & Donna Albert 12/25

Paul & Debbie Gresham 12/29

Congratulations to everyone !!



W.E.L.C.A. Anne Myrtle Circle



Hebrews 13:8

"Jesus is the same yesterday and today and forever".

At a brief and impromptu meeting, members of W.E.L.C.A have decided to continue to be in a holding pattern for now. There are members that will be returning soon for the season and it was decided that the group should wait until more are in attendance for discussion of future plans.

God's Blessings, Marilyn Torstveit and Diane Allen



We have discussed having a coffee fellowship after church sometimes. If you are interested in hosting a fellowship time, please see a council member or call the office.

*"Holy Spirit, think through me,
till your ideas are my ideas."*

Amy Carmichael



CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, October 19, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Jason Kurtz at 5:30 p.m.

Members present: Jason Kurtz, Mark Venturin, Arlene Burm, Jana Clevenger, Jim Look, Trudy Archer, Lynn Larson (by phone), Doug Eckmann, Pastor Stein

Opening devotion and prayer on Ps. 121 by Pastor Stein

A motion was made by Jana and seconded by Mark to approve the meeting agenda. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Jana and seconded by Jim to approve the Sept. 21, 2023 minutes. Motion passed

A motion was made by Mark and seconded by Lynn to approve the Sept. 30, 2023 treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Mutual Ministry: Jason and Mark met with Trudy and Jim Kreger for discussion on their jobs.

Property/Maintenance: Mark reported that the lawn service continues to do a good job.

Social Ministry: WELCA will probably start meeting in November. Totes of Grace will start soon.

Old Business:

Electrical Update: All electrical equipment is in and permit was submitted but returned. Electrician will resubmit information for permit.

Update on Task Force: Chapel-by-the-Sea is ready to move forward and will discuss cost sharing with their session. Tent (20x40) is set up in the parking lot and is ready to use.

Architect follow-up discussion: Mark met with the architect and we are ready to go ahead with drawing up plans for the bathrooms, ramps, etc.

New Business:

Addition of new council member: A motion was made by Jason and seconded by Jim to elect Doug Eckmann to the Council to fill in the vacancy left by Rhona Diamond. Motion passed. The congregation will vote on his election at the December meeting.

Lau Hall Demolition: After much soul searching and discussion it was decided that Lau Hall would have to come down. Trying to fix it would put us over the 50% rule from FEMA. It would not be insurable and would still be vulnerable to future storm surges. Doug checked with PAW Demolition to get an estimate which was \$34,800. A motion was made by Arlene and seconded by Jana to hire PAW Demolition. Motion carried.

Sunday Worship: It was decided to begin worship on the Beach on Sunday, November 5th, 2023 at 9:00 A.M. We will need to advertise via Beach Radio, the Observer, signs, and e-mails sent out to St. Peter and

Chapel-By-The-Sea members. Cider and doughnuts will be provided and possibly special music.

We will need to get Comcast to reinstall our internet equipment for live-streaming or do video taping.

Jason will contact Connie from the Florida/Bahama synod to find out about supply pastors. The task force will also try to come up with a list of lay leaders and possible other supply pastors for the Sunday services.

Trudy has a tentative service folder ready to use that combines elements from the Lutheran and Presbyterian services.

Pastor Stein's contract may need to be altered depending on what we learn from the synod as he is not available to us for Sunday worship services.

A motion was made by Arlene and seconded by Jana to submit an additional check for \$500.00 to Peace Lutheran Church in appreciation for their willingness to share their facilities with us this past year.

Motion passed.

A tentative proposed budget formulated by Trudy and Beth Rediker was discussed. We will take another look at it in November when we have more figures available.

A motion was made by Jim and seconded by Mark to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Burm, Church Council Secretary

The next regular council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16th at 5:30 p.m. at Arlene's house.

October 23, 2023

Addendum: By e-mail a motion was made by Jason and seconded by Doug to approve an additional amount of \$14,599 to remove the end wall and breezeway canopy of Lau Hall and an additional amount of \$1731 to remove the pilings and piece of loose concrete. This would bring the total removal cost to \$51,201 instead of the \$34,871 that was initially approved. The motion passed 5 – 2.

“We ought to get out of the judging business. We should leave it up to God to determine who belongs in one arena or another when it comes to eternity. What we are obligated to do is to tell people about Jesus, and that's what I do.”
Tony Campolo

On November 26, Beach Talk Radio delivered 36 new folding chairs and a cart for them to us. In 74 minutes, they received enough money from our friends and neighbors on Fort Myers Beach to cover this purchase. This is an amazing testament that caring, sharing and community are still the essential qualities that make our island so special.

Wish I had a photo, but you can watch it on
Facebook – Beach Talk Radio

SPECIAL EVENT COMING SOON!!

On Feb. 4 following church services, Comedian Al Ernst will be performing here at St. Peter!!

Al has been named Carnival Cruise lines “Entertainer of the Year” and that’s saying something since Carnival fills more than 5,000 entertainment shows a year! He is also known as the Warrior of Humor and uses a balance between Art and War for his comedy. Ernst has also been a Professional Wrestling announcer, hosted his own show, A View from the Cheap Seats, and has been featured on outlets like CNN, TNN, ESPN, Comedy Central, HBO, and is regularly featured on the Bob and Sheri Morning Show.

Al’s humor is non-confrontational and G-rated. Everyone will enjoy this event.

There will be a free will offering taken which Al will graciously split with the church. Mark your calendars for Feb. 4! Bring a friend and tell your neighbors!

The show will start around 10:30 am following worship.

Everyone is welcome!

2023 – CHURCH OFFICERS & COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT..... Dr. Jason Kurtz

VICE PRESIDENT.....Mark Venturin

SECRETARYArlene Burm

Interim Treasurer.....Jana Clevenger

MEMBERS:

Doug Eckmann - 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 more than a year past Ian (??? Still seems like last week, doesn't it). Some folks are still using our old address and it takes forever for it to forward. Soon they will not forward at all.

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

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