



The Anchor

Monthly Newsletter of St. Peter's Lutheran Church



April
2026

I once was blind!

The season of Lent will come to an end as Holy Week is ushered in with another Palm Sunday. When most of our children were growing up Palm Sunday was a day to celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Then during Holy week, we would move slowly and intentionally through the events of Holy Week, including Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil, the first celebration of Easter, early in the morning of Easter Day. The current Church calendar has changed, so that Palm Sunday, now called Passion Sunday, has us leaving church on Palm Sunday with Jesus already in the tomb! A concession to the lack of interest and attendance at Holy Thursday and Good Friday worship services and weariness with a 2 – 3 hour Easter Vigil. We have intentionally held on to the older sequence beginning with Palm Sunday, including Holy Thursday and Good Friday worship services. Sadly, I fear that the day is coming when this too will change!

We live during a time when pain and suffering of every kind is shared with us through many media sources. We might argue that the struggles of our world and culture are overwhelming, in fact we are

pretty worn out! We don't need to come to church to hear about pain and suffering! We know what happened to Jesus, it was truly awful. In our day we have gone to great extent to try and represent just how awful the physical and pain and suffering were. Truly, we can't really ever understand.

Yet the events of Holy Thursday and Good Friday are at the center of our faith, hope and love for Jesus, the one who suffered there for me! There is so much pain and suffering that goes on around us that has no point, makes no sense, but the pain and suffering of Jesus does.

The season of Lent has reminded us that we are like Nicodemus, the Samaritan Woman, the Blind man and Mary & Martha who all struggled to understand who Jesus is. Jesus has told us that we must be born from above, that He brings us living water, that true blindness is not about loss of sight but about paralyzed souls and that God's ways are not our ways, "Lord if you had been here my brother would not have died!"

Continued on Page 2

Parish Directory

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Johnson

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like to submit for publication in
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Peters, send us your email address.

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How to Reach Us:

Call the church office and leave a
message on ext. 10

Email us at

spcgreenport@gmail.com

Private Message us on the

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I once was blind! Continued from Page 1

Holy Thursday and Good Friday are part of the final act of the Greatest Story ever told! They are the story of how God's great love for us through his Son Jesus Christ addresses the pain and suffering of the ages. They are the fulfillment of what Mary and Martha long for, "Lord if you had been here my brother would not have died!"

Unlike Mary and Martha, although we probably don't really "understand" any better, we acknowledge what the scriptures teach us, what the wind and water nurture in us that, we are born again from above, that "Once I was blind!" But now I see! I don't know what the future holds as far as Holy Week, but I do know that we have the opportunity to reflect and remember together. I hope to see you there!

Easter Blessings to all!

Pr. Johnson



Updates on our Canine Companions

Submitted by Ruthanne Corazzini

Ghita is progressing with a variety of new skills. She is learning to walk next to a wheelchair when her handler is behind the chair pushing it. She has been on field trips to Sam's Club where she stayed focused on her handler and was willing to perform skills she has been learning in a busy environment. She also went to a train station and was able to navigate the gap and stayed focused with the noise. During a field trip to a downtown area she stayed focused around crowds.

Kottier has arrived in Florida and his handler reported he was calm and easy to handle through the airport and on the flight. He is already learning to take his handler to the source of the sound from a timer. He will also be learning to alert his person to sounds like a siren, dropped keys, knock at the door, a crying baby and fire alarm. Kottier will be going on his first Florida field trip before the end of March!

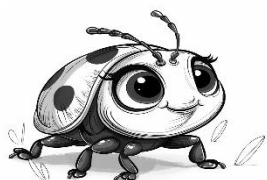


In memory of Kathy Ocker given by
Donna & Joe St. Pierre
Dawn & Marc Johnston

In memory of Herman Lindeman given by
Ruth Werking
Joan Olszewski
Dawn & Marc Johnston

In memory of Herman & Irene Lindeman given by
Wayne & Lisa Lindeman

In memory of Josephine Watkins-Johnson given by
Tom Watkins



April Wedding Anniversaries

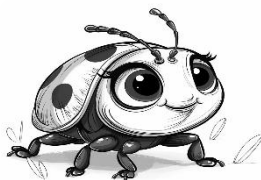
6-Vincent & Aileen Mazzei celebrate 34 years
13-Jonathan & Susan Boivin celebrate 30 years
17-Franklin Perrell & Emily Franchina celebrate 27 years
22-Pr. & Phyllis Johnson celebrate 49 years
24-Karl & Carol Burfeindt celebrate 72 years

April Birthdays

2—Katie Carlson
Jackie Esposito
3—Ruthanne Corazzini
6—Terry Jensen

7—Matthew Carter
10—Tom Watkins
11—Alex Boergesson
13—Lillian Dickerson

14—Patty Rochon
Ruth Dutot
16—Ed Esposito
23—Barbara Davidson





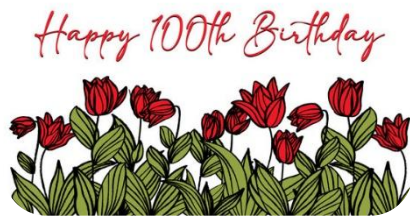
Thank you, Chris Chiaffitelli for showing us how to make Palm Crosses



Thank you to the Congregation for recognizing Phyllis Johnson's 70th birthday with a special cake during Coffee Hour on March 22nd.



On their recent trip to Florida, Pastor and Phyllis were blessed to be able to see the much missed Don and Dot Henry.



Doris Lezny



To Our St. Peter's Family,
My mother was so touched and delighted to
see so many of her church family on March
7th to celebrate her 100th birthday. She is
sending her thanks and a donation.

All the best,

Doris Lezny

By her daughter Emily Franchina

God's Work...Our Hands

THANK YOU to the members of St. Peter's for remembering me in your thoughts, prayers, phone calls, cards, visits, etc. God certainly takes care of us in His own special way. My heart is now getting the attention it needs and I'm on the way to building a stronger heart. The knee can wait—the heart can't. St. Peter's is a special family and I'm so happy to be a part of it.

With love,

Myrna Hanff

To the St. Peter's Lutheran Church Staff,
Thank you all once again for your beautiful generous donation to our daughter's foundation. You are all a blessing to **Kait's Angels** and the community.

Love, Peace and Friendship

*The Kait's Angels Team and
Kaitlyn's Family*

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your donation to **Canine Companions**. Your thoughtfulness allows us to provide expertly trained service dogs to children, adults and veterans with disabilities—at no cost. Since our founding in 1975, we have placed over 8,500 service dogs with people with disabilities and professionals who rely on them every day. As we look to the future, I hope that you will continue by our side in this remarkable journey of empowering people with disabilities. Thank you again for your support.

With gratitude,

Rudy J. Breedy, MPH

Executive Director

Northeast Region

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your congregation's gift. I am so grateful for your generous support of **Lutheran World Relief**! It is because of caring congregations like yours that Lutheran World Relief has been able to serve our hurting world for 80 years, and it is because of your compassion that our ministry together will continue helping children and families who need it most. I pray that one day, our work together will no longer be needed. I pray that one day, all our neighbors, near and far will live in a world free of poverty, injustice and suffering. Until that day, I am grateful to count on your church to answer the call to help people in their time of need. It is no exaggeration to say your generosity truly saves lives and makes a brighter future possible.

Yours always in Christ,

Ambassador *Daniel V. Speckhard*

President and CEO

Dear St. Peter's Church,

On behalf of Lutheran Counseling Center, thank you for your generous action of love in your recent gift as well as your prayers for our ministry. Your gift will be used for our ministry, giving life affirming counseling and other services for individuals, schools and churches. The transforming hope and healing that your gift will bring to those in need is indeed priceless.

Yours in Christ,

Betty Geiling

Executive Director

The Great Liturgies of Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 29th

The beginning Rite of Holy Week with Jesus making His triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Hosanna to the Son of David!

Join the procession with Palms!

Festival Eucharist 9:30 am



Maundy Thursday, April 2nd

The Liturgy for Maundy Thursday: Washing of the Feet and Celebration of the “Last Supper” as instituted by Christ Himself.

“This is My Body given for you!”

Eucharist at 10:00 am

Seder Meal at 5:00 pm



Good Friday, April 3rd

The Great Day of Sacrifice for all creation.

Services 10:00 am and 7:00 pm



Easter Sunday, April 5th

The Festival of the Resurrection

Festival Eucharist at 9:30 am





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With St. Peter's Lutheran Church

We worship Sunday mornings 9:30 am. We offer many ways to connect with us from any location at any time of day or night. We livestream our weekly Worship Service on our Facebook page. Follow us at www.Facebook/SPLCGreenport. Visit St. Peter's website at www.stpetersgreenport.org. Email us at SPLCGreenport@gmail.com



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