



St. Peter's Lutheran

1130 St. Peters Road
Lexington SC 29072
803-359-2470

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 9 am-6 pm
Friday 9 am—Noon
www.StPetersLexSC.org

Staff

The Rev. Dr. Judson F. Merrell, STS
"Pastor Judson" Senior Pastor
JudsonMerrell@bellsouth.net
704-798-4280

The Rev. Cassandra L. Boehringer
"Pastor Cassie" Associate Pastor
pastorcassieb@gmail.com
678-492-3956

Craig Davis
Matins Choir & Instrumental Director

Kayla Ellington
Angel Choir Director

Lauren Henry
Penni Henry
Nursery Attendants

Barry Moore
Chancel Choir & Handbells Director

Valerie Porth
Bookkeeper

Molly Teem
SonShine Choir Director

Open Position
Youth & Young Adult Director

Carol Wyndham
Administrative Coordinator
Organist/Accompanist
office@stpeterslexsc.org
803-360-7137

Thoughts from Pastor Cassie

On Winter Solstice [of 2020], I drove the kids home from the Chick-fil-A drive-thru and checked the clock. It was time to look up for that star—that special planetary alignment. I thought it was going to be somewhere else in the sky, but right where it was, it was just unmistakable. I got so excited! I called my brother. "Did you see it?!" He said, "I think so but we're going to try to look again in a few minutes." "I think I see it here! It's the only bright star in the sky," I noticed as dusk was quickly turning to night. I drove past the church, past farmland where a few cars parked in a field just to look up. I pulled into our neighborhood and all was quiet but everyone was looking up. One family shared a telescope with their neighbors. I got the kids out of the car and we saw it just as clear as anything over our cul-de-sac. I thought, how wonderful. I really felt like God wanted us to see it. I pointed and Leeann said, "Star!" Something about that planetary alignment gave me this sense of hope and wonder. I had been downcast and saddened for weeks by news no one would ever want to hear. But it sure was peaceful that night to look up. Emmanuel. God with us.

This was a little trot down memory lane that I wrote a few days before my dad passed in early 2021. That special planetary alignment was of Jupiter & Saturn—the Christmas Star. As awesome as that evening was, the hope of Christ is with us still today. Join us for worship this Advent season as we await with hope the coming of our Savior.

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Cassie



Church Business

ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS

This year's meeting was held at 10 am Sunday, November 12th. The following members were elected to serve on Church Council for the next three years:

Donna Alford Jeffrey Crapps
Doreen Edmondson Paul Schreiber

Rachel Price was elected to serve a 1-year term on Church Council.

Addison Cook was elected to serve as the Youth Representative.

The **Endowment Board** welcomed Bill Jennings to a 5-year term

St. Peter's By the Number Numbers reflect giving Jan. 1-Oct. 31, 2023

Actual Received YTD	\$491,242.16
Actual Spent YTD	\$481,432.57
Difference YTD	+ \$9,809.59

Ministry Highlights

by Karen Cook

Church Council met November 12th @ 4 pm.

Absent: Mike Weidner

- **Treasurer's** report on the left.
- **Treasurer:** Memorial money not designated by respective families has been moved to a fund for new Sound System for Sanctuary.
- **Education** has had low attendance this fall. We are discussing ideas on ways to improve.
- **Evangelism** has scheduled a St. Peter's Night at a Blowfish game. The choir will sing the National Anthem. Working on ways to get new folks more involved in church life.
- **Safety:** Planning to have CPR training in new year. All door codes updated.
- **Service** is looking for new members. Packed 101 boxes for Operation Christmas Child. ALS donations totaled \$945 in memory of Sharon James. Planning a Missions Market for 2024.
- **Stewardship/Finance** is also looking for new members for 2024.
- **Worship & Music** has purchased a new Nativity Set. Dec. 24th 10 am Children's Play in PLC with cookies afterwards. Dec. 24th 5:30 pm & 10 pm our traditional Candlelight services. Dec. 31st **Lessons & Carols** at 10 am. Real candles this year.
- **Youth** raised over \$1600 before expenses for youth missions. Also hosted the Carolinas Youth Reformation Party on November 5th. Our search continues for a new Youth Director.

**Next meeting is December 10th @ 3 pm
(old and new Council members)**

Join us for

*Christmas at
St. Peter's*

Sunday, Dec. 3rd—1st Sunday of Advent

Worship with Holy Communion @ 8:30 am

Worship with Holy Communion @ 11:00 am

Wednesday, Dec. 6th—Advent Services—11:15 am & 6:15 pm

Sunday, Dec. 10th—Cantata (no 8:30 am service today)

The Dark Night - 11 am and 6 pm

(4-Hand Piano preludes begin 30 minutes prior)

Wednesday, Dec. 13th—Advent Services—11:15 am & 6:15 pm

Sunday, Dec. 17th—3rd Sunday of Advent

Worship with Holy Communion @ 8:30 am

Worship with Holy Communion @ 11:00 am

Wednesday, Dec. 20th—Advent Services—11:15 am & 6:15 pm

Sunday, Dec. 24th—Christmas Eve

Children/Youth Christmas Play at 10 am in PLC

(cookies to follow—volunteers needed to bake)

Candlelight Service at 5:30 pm in Sanctuary

Candlelight Service at 10:00 pm in Sanctuary

(preludes begin 30 minutes prior to evening worship times)

Sunday, Dec. 31st—Lessons & Carols @ 10 am

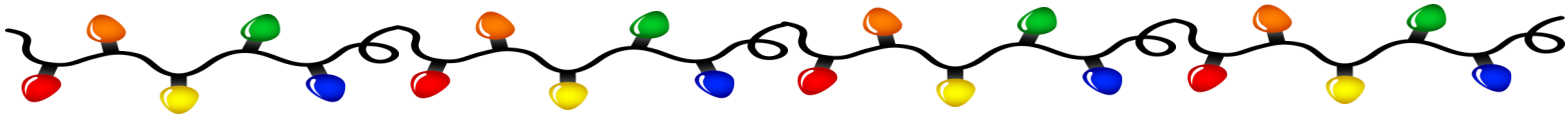




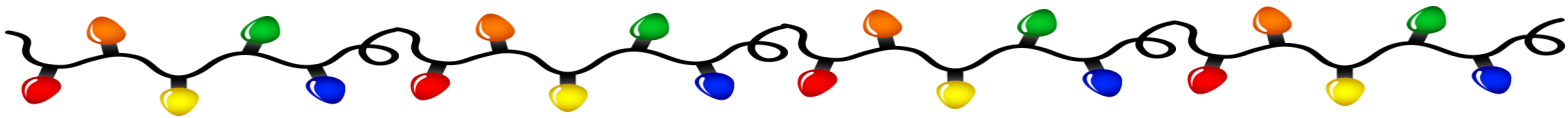
Ministry Opportunities

SNACK SACK MINISTRY needs **PB&J!**

The Snack Sack Ministry packs & delivers bags of food each week to local elementary schools. The week prior to Christmas, jars of peanut butter and jelly are given to each child in our program. If you would like to help, please place your donations of 16-18 oz. PLASTIC jars of jelly or peanut butter in the Snack Sack donation bin outside of the Parish Life Center. Thank you for making a difference in these children's lives!



Adopt a College Student If you are interested in sending the occasional note or treat to a member of our congregation who is away at college, please see Pastor Cassie.



Bible Study Opportunities

Youth on Sundays

Jr. & Sr. Youth @ 5-6 pm in the Youth Room
Contact Pastor Cassie with questions.

Adult Bible Studies

Sundays at 10:00 am:

- There are several Adult Classes available. Call Pastor Cassie if you have questions about which one might best suit your needs.

Other Adult Bible Studies

Wednesday Mornings:

- Bible Study @ 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall

Men's Bible Study

- Fridays @ 6:15 am in Fellowship Hall

2:7 Discipleship Groups

- Contact Tom Lawhead @ 803-238-8080 to get hooked up with a group.





Sunday SCHOOL

ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD

Growing in Faith Together

Why Sunday School is Important

◆ Encourages Faithfulness

1 Timothy 4:6 tells us “If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed.” (ESV)

◆ Sunday School Supports Godly Parenting

The church is not the only means of Christian education. Sunday School forms a partnership with parents.

◆ Community and Fellowship

Sunday School enables people to connect with others who share their faith, providing a sense of community and fellowship that is often lacking in our fast-paced, individualistic society.



Sunday School Schedule for December

December 3rd—All youth & Adults in PLC for special presentation

December 10th—No Sunday School (Cantata only @ 11 am)

December 17th—regular schedule

December 24th—No Sunday School (Play only in PLC)

December 31st—No Sunday School (Lessons & Carols only at 10 am)





Women's Retreat at Camp Gravatt
April 19-21, 2024
Topic: Prayer

We will have room for 24 ladies. Please let us know if you are interested in attending the retreat. The cost will be \$270 per person. This will include the two nights and 6 meals. We will arrive on Friday afternoon and leave on Sunday after lunch. The cost for the retreat is due by April 1st.

We will have an installment plan to help you pay for the retreat.

\$100 due in December

\$100 due in February

\$70 due April 1, 2024 (total is due)

We need to give the camp an approximate number by the end of 2023.

To sign up or get more information, please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48A5AC2FA6FB6-45502459-ladies#/>

If you have questions, please call Brenda Hedgecock.




*For unto us,
a Child is born....*
Isaiah 9:6





Service Committee

It's been a great year!

Operation Christmas Child

Thanks to those who donated and/or helped pack this year's shoeboxes. It was a tremendous effort and we had over 100 boxes this year!



SOCKTOBER

Small socks.
Big socks.
Even in between socks.
Orange socks.
Blue socks.
As long as they are new socks.



We are collecting pairs of socks for Mission Lexington's 2023 Socktober event! Please put them in the bin in the PLC.

Thank you!

2024 Missions Market

We are considering a Missions Market sometime in 2024. if you are interested in participating or in helping to organize, please contact Debbie Dent or Rachel Price.

Thank you for your support of our many projects throughout the year!



Merry Christmas





Thank You Notes

St. Peter's Family,

Godfrey and I want to thank all the different committees & ladies & youth that are constantly remembering us. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for our loving, caring church.

God Bless,

Godfrey & Jane Burnett

They say it takes a village and boy do I Love my Village! I would like to thank our church family for all the prayers, texts, calls, emails, & visits. I can't express how much it meant to our family. Thank you to Pastor Judson for making the early morning visit and sitting with Jason & myself the day of my surgery.

A special thank you to Pastor Cassie and her family for loving CJ as their own and being amazing friends to Jason and myself. Your visits and "day outing/rescue" were exactly what I needed!!

It's going to be a long recovery but I know with the strength of my church family behind me, I'll get there! Thank you again!

God Bless,

Jason, Angie & CJ Williams

Dear Church Family,

I don't know enough words to thank all of you for the things you've done for us since I broke my hip.

The visits, phone calls, prayers, flowers, food, cards, all made my miserable days more bearable.

Thanks from the bottom of our hearts,

Jane & Charles Risinger

Dear Landis,

Thank you **so** much for choosing us to fabricate the new countertops for the Fellowship Hall kitchen! To a small business like us, your support and trust means the world! We hope the people of the church love them! If you know anyone else in need of countertops, we would **so** appreciate the referral!

Sincerely,

Ethen & Rebekah Del Priore

Carolina Stone Craftsman

2010 Chapin Rd., Chapin, SC 29036

803-408-3456

Dear St. Peter's Family,

Thank you for providing pictures of our Veterans for our tribute tables. We realize that our list of veterans is ever-changing and we appreciate your patience as we continue to update our master list as necessary.

God Bless,

Lutheran Men





Note of Thanks

This church could not run without our volunteers & we cannot begin to tell you how much we appreciate all of them!! Y'all get to see the dozens of volunteers that serve on Sunday mornings (greeters, choir members, ushers, lectors, communion assistants, camera operators, acolytes, coffee time servers, Sunday School teachers, bereavement meal cooks), not to mention our members who volunteer to serve on committees & pull off wonderful events for our congregation. What you may not realize is how many more serve behind the scenes to do what has to be done each and every week.

Bulletin Stuffers: Connie Lindler, Robin & Russell Rawl, Jenny & Reita Stone

Pew Crew (straighten & restock pew racks): Debbie Arnold, Sandy Coleman, Bob & Jeanne Dernbach, David & Linda Heffner, Tom & Diane Lawhead, Connie Lindler, Angie Meetze, Robin & Russell Rawl, Jenny & Reita Stone

Sign Changer: Debbie Arnold

Archives/Library Crew: Pat Allen, Brenda Hedgecock & Elizabeth Lindler

Help with Bizarre Requests: Bobbi Buff, Brenda & Ed Hedgecock, Jackie Jumper, Tom & Diane Lawhead, Tommy Stone, & Bob Weed

Loving Group Members who gather to assemble this newsletter each month.

Nativity & Cross Set-up: Paul Arnold, Claude Linder & the Boys

And last, but certainly not least

Office Assistants: Barbara Weed & Jenny Stone who do a multitude of activities each week (post attendance, print & fold bulletins, update bulletin boards, chop communion slips, decorate the office, organize, take inventory, put out Upper Rooms, etc.) that keep us going! We couldn't function without them!! They have been especially great while Carol was with the Twyndhams.

Thank you to all of these (and to those I'm sure I have forgotten) for using your gifts & talents in service to St. Peter's. You are loved!!





Student Ministry News

SAVE THE DATES

All events are for all youth, grades 3-12.

OUTING TO LITTLE BETHLEHEM

Sunday, December 3rd @ 6:30 pm

RSVP to Pastor Cassie

CHRISTMAS CAROLING to Shut-Ins & KRISPY KREME PARTY

Sunday, December 17th

2-5 pm in our Parish Life Center

This is for all youth, grades 3-12. We'll end with our annual white elephant gift exchange at the church.

Wear your favorite Ugly Christmas sweater!

CHRISTMAS PLAY

Sunday, December 24th

10 am in our Parish Life Center

Cookies to follow.

Questions? Call Pastor Cassie @ 678-492-3956





Our Prayer List

Members

Landis Ballington
Melody Boland
Ken Brock
Olin Chassereau
Jeanne Dernbach
Paul Duell
Charlie Eargle
Summer Eargle
Kathy Fornal
Bob Hundley
Michelle L. Jones
Ray Jones
Connie Lindler
Bobby Martin
Kim Massey
Barbara Novak

Jennifer O'Neill
Marvin Parson
Buffy Pearson
Dottie Rivard
Steve Rivard
Mike Rowell
Tommy Shealy
Rich Smith
Carol Stealey
James Thompson
Elizabeth Ward
Stan Whiteside

Homebound

Betty Amick (Wellmore)
Meredith Arnold
Wanda Arnold
Grace Harmon
Frank & Peggy Howard (Wellmore)
Family of Gail Oliver
Lonna Paul
Oddie & Joyce Porth
Ann Rowell (Lakeside)
Jake Rush (Wellmore)
Barbara Whiteside (Carroll Campbell)

Missionaries & Ministry Partners

David Davis in Brazil
N&N-World Mission Prayer League
NALC Mission Congregations:
Immanuel, Sumter, SC
Reformation, New Bern, NC
Trinity, Flat Rock, NC
The NALC

Military

David Ballington (Army)
Michael Edmondson (Army)
Alex Schneider (Marines)
Matthew Teeter (Marines-deployed)
Kyle Weed (Navy)
Kyle Williams (Navy)

Family & Friends of the St. Peter's Congregation

Lanier Amick (father of LeAnne Ballentine)
Jerry & Ashley Anderson (niece & nephew of Cynthia Johnson)
Paul Aull (brother-in-law of Wayne O'Neill)
Steve Bachman (friend of Bill & Darla Jennings)
Rhonda Branham (family of Steve & Donna Alford)
Lauren Buie & Kids (daughter of David Spence)
Kathie Cashion (mother of Hillarie Vaughan)
Mike Casper (uncle of Mike Weidner)
Family of Angie Drafts Clamp (friend of Leeann Crapps)
Charlie Clamp (friend of Rylee & Gracie Ray Smith)
Danny Covington (uncle of Elizabeth & Michael Covington)
Doug Duell (uncle of Paul Duell)
Gil Ferro (husband of Barbara Ferro)
Dan Frick (father of Lisa Szuhy)
Al Gleaton (friend of Wayne O'Neill)
Ann Hass (friend of Bobby Harmon)
Jody Hendrix (cousin of Pastor Cassie)
Don Kissler (friend of Kay Raasch)
David Kovacs (friend of Jennifer McMillan)
Donna Lanier (mother of Lisa Leitzsey)
Gil Leader (grandfather of Kayla Spangler)
Gerry Lee (brother of Joyce Shealy)
Emily Lyles (family of Ginny Bruce)
Wayne Marcolini (brother of Chris Marcolini)
Stephanie Maroney (friend of David Spence)
*Beth McMillan (sister-in-law of Keith McMillan)
Millie McMillan (mother of Keith McMillan)
Charles Novak (brother of Dan Novak)
Jim Orth (nephew of Doreen Edmondson)
Ronnie Palm (uncle of Julie Werner)
Ronda Porth (daughter of Joyce H. & Oddie Porth)
Tracy Pound (friend of Catherine Oxner)
Jim Salyer (friend of Jennifer McMillan)
Jason Sharpe (nephew of Oddie & Joyce H Porth)
Brandon Shealy (grandson of Fulmer & Joyce Shealy)
George & Jackie Shull (parents of Kim Massey)
Fred Smith (great uncle of Rylee Smith)
Marion & Diane Smyrl (parents of Edie Beaver)
Bob Snelgrove Family @ MUSC (cousins of Janet Wiggins)
Kitty Spence (family of Zack & Julynn Spence)
Charlotte Stiglbauer (daughter-in-law of John & Anna)
Billy Switter (family of Bob & Patti Switter)
Caleb Taylor (friend of Wilson Oxner)
Catherine Taylor (daughter of Dick & Patricia Derrick)
John Thorndyke (friend of Wayne O'Neill)
*Fern Ulmer (aunt of Keith McMillan)
Linda Wilbur (friend of Jennifer McMillan)
Christie Williams (step-mother of Jason Williams)
Barbara Zarek (guest of St. Peter's)

*Friends stay on this list for 4 weeks. **Please update family members on this list regularly.** Thank you.*

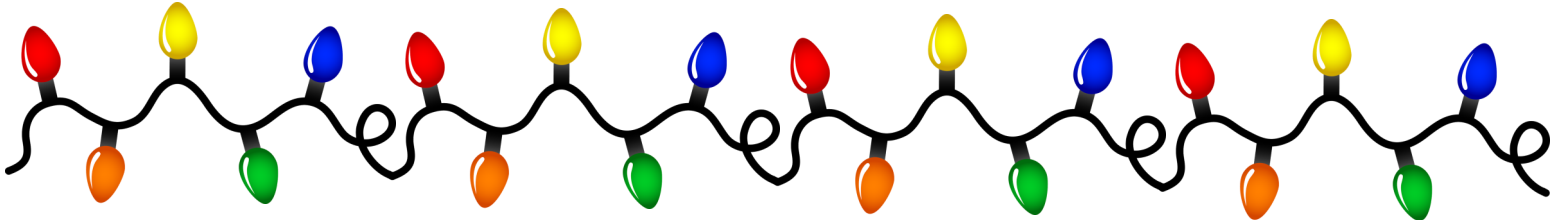
Serving in December

	December 3	December 10	December 17	December 24*	December 31
Acolyte Early	Addison Cook	No 8:30 Worship	Reagan Boland	5:30 pm-	10 am- TBA
Late	Max Cooper	Cantata	Drew Sweatman	10 pm-	
Altar Flowers	Paul & Susan Schreiber	Fulmer Family	Jason & Angie Williams	Worship & Music Committee	Ed & Brenda Hedgecock
Altar Guild	Kayla Ellingson, Scarlett Ellingson, Laura Riley				
Bulletins	Jenny Stone & Angie Meetze				
Camera	Crystal Dennison	Debbie Arnold	Crystal Dennison	Debbie Arnold	Crystal Dennison
Coffee Time	Busters SS Class	Cantata- Not Needed	Volunteers	Kids' Play & Cookies	Not Needed
Communion Assistants Early	Bread: Pastor Judson Pastor Cassie Wine: Chip Rhoads Kelly Rhoads	No 8:30 Worship	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Steve Wyndham Pat Allen	5:30 pm- Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Jenny Stone S. Wyndham	10 am- Bread: Pr. Cassie Wine: LeeAnn Crapps
Communion Assistants Late	Bread: Pr. Judson Pr. Cassie Wine: Marie Eargle D. Edmondson	Cantata No Communion	Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: D. Edmondson Anna Stiglbauer	10 pm- Bread: Pastor Cassie Pastor Judson Wine: Marie Eargle B. Hedgecock	
Greeters Early	Paul & Susan Schreiber	No 8:30 worship	Volunteer	5:30 pm-Volunteer	10 am Volunteer
Late	Marie Eargle	Volunteer	Volunteer	10 pm- Marie Eargle	
Lectors Early	Paul Robison	Cantata Not Needed	Pat Allen	5:30 pm-Chip Rhoads	10 am Dot Rish
Late	Marie Eargle		Anna Stiglbauer	10 pm-Dot Rish	
Pew Crew	Jenny Stone & Angie Meetze				
Ushers	Paul Duell & Tommy Stone —Co-Chairs / Chet Ballentine, Ken Lunsford, John Stiglbauer				



December Birthdays

1st	Dot Rish Gloria Shealy Brandon Thompson Natalie Weber	8th	Elizabeth Covington Carolyn Eadie Valeri Wilson	21st	Jessica Huffstetler
2nd	Erika Galub Sam Shannon (91) Larry Shull	9th	Hannah Massey	22nd	Matthew Dozier
4th	Wanda Arnold Allison Hendrix Kelly Rhoads Dan Russell Doug Schreiber	10th	Toni Coker Connie Lindler	25th	Jennifer Raasch Jim Thompson
5th	Ashley Powell	12th	Marissa Black Shelby Lindler	26th	Steve Ellisor
6th	Shawn Lunsford George Mills Gene Porth	13th	Robbie Boland	27th	Barbara Cavanaugh Dustin Hoffman Angie Meetze
7th	Ginny Bruce Bryistol Jumper	14th	Butch Harmon	28th	Marion Gable
		15th	Brayden Boland Olivia Houck Addyson Mobley	29th	Penni Henry
		18th	Debbie Arnold	30th	Patricia Derrick Kay G Riley Carol Wyndham
		19th	Tommy Lindler	31st	Brandon Riley
		20th	Tommy Sweatman		



December Anniversaries

7th	Tommy & Ernie Chaplin	60 years
10th	Garrett & Madison Webb	1 year
13th	Paul & Susan Schreiber	15 years
16th	Sam & Wanda Harmon	56 years
16th	Jason & Angie Williams	17 years
21st	Jennifer & Chris Williams	27 years
23rd	Furman & Myra Cantrell	56 years
27th	Dan & Barbara Novak	64 years
29th	Ricky & Julie Werner	39 years





Merry Christmas

from the Staff of St. Peter's

We are honored &
blessed to serve here!

Pastor Judson

Craig

Valerie

Pastor Cassie

Barry

Penni

Carol

Molly

Lauren

Kayla





DECEMBER WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

8:30 am Worship
 9:45 am SonShine Choir
 10:00 am Angel Choir
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship
 4:00 pm Handbells
 5:00 pm Jr. & Sr. Youth

MONDAY

6:30 pm Matins Choir
 7:15 pm Cantata Rehearsal

TUESDAY

2:00 pm Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY

10:00 am Bible Study/FH
 11:15 am Advent Worship
 6:30 pm Advent Worship

FRIDAY

6:15 am Bible Study/FH

CR: Conference Room

FH: Fellowship Hall

GR: Gathering Rm in PLC

PLC: Parish Life Center

YR: Youth Room

December 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2
3 Taylor Watford Foundation Presenta- tion 10 am/ PLC	4 Lutheran Men 6:30pm/ FH	5 Youth Committee 7:15 pm / CR	6	7	8	9
10 No 8:30 Worship <i>Christmas Cantata</i> 	11	12 Loving Group Christmas Party	13	14	15	16
17 Youth Caroling 2-5 pm	18	19 Loving Group 10:30 am	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Office Closed						
31						

***No 8:30 am worship on
 December 10th. Please
 join us for the Cantata at
 11 am or 6 pm.**

★
 For
 God so
 loved the
 world He gave
 His one and only
 Son that whoever
 believes in Him shall not
 perish but have eternal life
 John
 3:16





St. Peter's Lutheran Church
1130 St. Peter's Road
Lexington, SC 29072

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2022



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