

The Net

Feb 2019 • Volume 1 • Number 1 • www.stpetersbythesea.org

St. Peter's By The Sea Lutheran Church Church Phone: 619-224-2894 • Fax: 619-224-3830

Preschool Phone: 619-224-1689

Worship Services

Sunday Worship: 9:30am (Nursery Care provided)

Choir Rehearsal: Sunday, 8:00am Youth Choir: Sunday, 9:00am

Evening Prayer: Wednesday, 6:30pm

Staff

Rev. Karen Marohn, Pastor pastor@stpetersbythesea.org

Janine Morrow, Office Administrator office@stpetersbythesea.org

Doris DeChenne, Director of Music doris.dechenne@cox.net

Denise Langlois, Preschool Director preschool@stpetersbythesea.org

Betty Wells

Health Outreach Ministry

Christy Gilsdorf

Newsletter Designer

2018 Council

Kara bleday, Jane Christensen, Ben Fadden, Christina Fadden, Jim Grutkowski, Richard Nielsen, Patricia Pepper, Max Phelps, Deirdre Slaughter, John Smart, Darlene Morrow-Truver

Pastor's Message

On planning to retire

At the January Congregation Council meeting I told the Council of my intention to retire as pastor at St. Peter's by the Sea Lutheran Church in September, 2019.

Sixteen years ago in early January I arrived in San Diego for the first interview with the call committee here at St. Peter's and I began my pastoral call on the



first of May in 2003. I have loved our ministry together! What a blessing this call has been. We've done wonderful ministry together and grown in faith and love. I have no plans to move away from San Diego and plan to do more work with the Synod.

The Council will appoint a Transition Team of 5 – 6 members who will begin the work of preparing the Mission Site Profile. This team will listen to the stories and memories, the reflections and observations, the hopes and dreams of the congregation. The writing of the Mission Site Profile is such important work. The five central focus areas are Heritage, Leadership, Mission, Connections, and Future. All the members of the congregation will be invited to participate in the work of the Transition Team. We hope that the Mission Site Profile will be ready to give to the Bishop and Synod office by the Synod Assembly in mid-May.

In May the congregation will elect a Call Committee who will work with the Synod Office receiving names and beginning the interview process. In September I will leave St. Peter's and, if necessary, the Bishop will appoint a bridge pastor to serve as your pastor until a call has been issued and accepted and your new pastor is on the way.

The coming months of 2019 will be busy for us but we will continue in our many good ministries, in the deepening of our faith and worship life, and in the sharing the good news of God's love in this place and in the world.

Let us continue to hold one another in love and prayer during this very important time in the life of our wonderful congregation.

Living in God's most amazing Grace, Pastor Karen LaFollette Marohn

News from the Treasurer

The Congregation Council held their monthly meeting on January 8, 2019. The following people were elected as officers of the Council:

And those appointed to serve in Committee leadership:

President – John Smart Christian Service – Patricia Pepper

Vice-President – Jim Grutkowski Education - Kara Bleday Secretary – Richard Nielsen Fellowship – Jane Christensen Treasurer – Darlene Morrow-Truver Preschool – Deirdre Slaughter

Property - Max Phelps & Richard Nielsen

Stewardship - Christina Fadden & Darlene Morrow-Truver

Worship – Jim Grutkowski Youth – Ben Fadden

The following reports are from the treasurer:

Budget Recap	December Actual	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget
Income	\$30,528.76	\$319,103.17	\$326,540.00
Expense	\$27,797.79	\$319,103.17	\$326,540.00
Difference	\$2,730.97		

This includes a transfer of \$1,656.92 from Reserve Funds to balance the 2018 budget.

All Are Welcome - Restoration and Renovation Campaign:

	December 2018
Begnning Balance	\$177,013.09
Income	\$336.18
Expense	\$8,351.83
Ending Balance	\$168,997.44

This includes a transfer of \$8,246.83 to the Preschool facility to balance their 2018 budget.

Preschool News

St. Peter's Preschool is full and thriving with happy students and dedicated teachers. God continues to bless this ministry!

This month we are learning about children and cultures around the world, friendship, sharing and love, weather and seasons, Presidents and our Nation.

We are all enjoying our winter weather, it certainly has us bundled up on the playground and patiently waiting for spring!

Blessings! Denise Langlois, Preschool Director Recently, TACO was honored at the San Diego County Behavioral Health Recognition Dinner for the work we do in assisting disabled homeless individuals to gain permanent benefits. Subsequently, I was asked to speak to the San Diego County Mental Health Coalition.

During my presentation a clinician shared with the room, "I've eaten in your food line. It was the only place my brother could feel comfortable." At TACO they had several opportunities to talk and connect with each other. It was the place he felt safe to come, knowing that at our tables everyone was welcome and it felt safe.

You may have heard that 30 to 40% of all homeless people have been diagnosed with some type of mental illness. This statistic belies the fact that once people have been on the street for more than two years, the trauma of living alone outside can cause other mental health problems. Violence is always a concern and keeps people from resting as they try to remain vigilant.

This woman's brother was a homeless vet who struggled with his PTSD and seldom felt safe. For him and the other 700 people we serve each week, TACO offers a time of respite and calm security. The meals we offer are but one part of the deeper peace and care we provide.

During 2018,

- + TACO served over 21,000 meals
- + 15,000 individuals were fed
- + 303 new volunteers added to the 1500 repeating volunteers
- + Our clinical staff saw an average of 30 individuals on a weekly basis in addition to the 45 people we assist each week with a variety of more general needs.

Your donations have made this work possible and we sincerely thank you for all you've given!

As we look ahead, we hope to restore some components of our work that were put on hold when money was very tight. We're seeking to hire a person to lead the Going Home End-of-Life Services program which we initiated some 11 years ago. We have dedicated funding for this work and are eager to see it once again serving these homeless people who are dying. In addition, we're doing long-range planning to determine what services we can expand and what new programs might be offered.

Many of you are aware that we've been planning to build a lift that will aid staff and TACO clients to reach the second floor more easily. We've had money on hand to fully fund this project and hope to see construction start after many months of delay in getting required permits from the planning department. Believe us that we will be very happy when we can announce that the construction has begun!

The staff and board of TACO are dedicated to seeing our important work continue. We continually look at ways of building our financial base.

Blessing to you in 2019!

Sincerely, James Lovell, MSW Executive Director

Nursery Care

The care of our children is a very important thing, and we have been working to keep up with best practices for child care. This means two adults to assist the children and one another. It can be a challenge to herd up the group when one of them has to go to the bathroom, or when one wants to play inside and another outside. Having a second adult in the nursery allows for a stable environment and allows them to handle circumstances which arise that can be difficult for just one person.

Having a second adult in the nursery is also a protection for the workers, to help avoid allegations. We currently use two Sunday School teachers for this reason.

We have a regular group of families that take advantage of the nursery, and we have been very blessed to have Anya taking care of our kids during the worship service.



We have asked for volunteers and while this was successful in the beginning, it has been more challenging as of late. We also want to find ways to allow our parents opportunities to come to worship on a regular basis as well.

After a long discussion, the council voted to hire a second nursery assistant. The cost of a second position (two hours each Sunday) is a small price for having a consistent, caring environment that our parents can depend on.

We feel that working within the standards of the Safe Child Act, and having two adults in our nursery shows our dedication to our families and their physical and spiritual well-being.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to let me know.

John Smart, Council President

Pray for Longer Life

A 2016 study followed 74,534 women for 20 years; those who attended religious services more than once a week enjoyed a 33 percent lower mortality rate than those who skipped church.

(AARP Bulletin Real Possibilities January/February 2019)

Music Notes

Announcing NEW rehearsal times for our choirs!

St. Peter's choir will rehearse every Sunday morning from 8:00 to 9:00 am. Followed directly by our Youth at 9:00 to 9:20!

We are hoping that by having these times we will be able to get more adults out to sing with us and more children and teens!

Thanks so much for your many comments regarding our Christmas musical AND our Christmas eve and Christmas morning music. Those services were a great blessing to me and such a privilege to be able to participate in!

"Next to the word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." Martin Luther

Doris DeChenne, Music Director