

# The Net

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**St. Peter's by the Sea Lutheran Church**

Church Phone: 619-224-2894

Preschool Phone: 619-224-1689

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

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### Worship Services

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. onsite  
& live-streamed

### Staff

Rev. Bekki Lohrmann, pastor

[pastor@stpetersbythesea.org](mailto:pastor@stpetersbythesea.org)

Janine Morrow, Office Administrator

[office@stpetersbythesea.org](mailto:office@stpetersbythesea.org)

Dori Hoadley, Preschool Director

[preschool@stpetersbythesea.org](mailto:preschool@stpetersbythesea.org)

Joe DeMers, Music Minister

[Music.minister@stpetersbythesea.org](mailto:Music.minister@stpetersbythesea.org)

Betty Wells, Health Outreach Ministry

Hannah DeMers, Newsletter Editor

### 2024 Council

Pat Hendrickson, President

John Smart, Vice-President

Richard Nielsen, Secretary

Darlene Morrow-Truver, Treasurer

Sandra Boelter; Solveig Fuentes; Liz

Medina; Jacquelyn Romero; Scott

Walls; Betty Wells

Happy Easter, dear people of St. Peter's!

Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Thank you to everyone who has leant a hand to make our Lent, Holy Week and Easter such meaningful experiences. Thank you to those who brought soup, salads, and bread for the Lenten Suppers. Thank you to Betty Wells and Solveig Fuentes and others for creating such well-tended space for supper and worship each week. Thank you to all who helped with clean up during lent and on Easter morning—all who set up or tore down chairs. Thanks to all who provided music throughout the season—extra cantors and musicians. Thank you to Joe DeMers for all your good planning and execution in providing us with terrific music. Thank you to all who provided a dish or volunteer time for Easter Brunch! Thank you to our Education team for hosting another successful Easter Event for the Kids! Thank you to Charles Lauger and Lyle Boelter and John Smart for all their leadership in the realm of technology and live-streaming. Thank you to Jim Grutkowski for washing more communion cups than we could count! Thank you to Lyle Beller, Solveig Fuentes, Betty Wells, Delfino Lutack, Nano Masters, Charles and Elaine Lauger, Barbara Nielsen, and Jim Grutkowski for their work reorganizing and cleaning out the back store room last month! Lastly, thank you to Darlene Truver who stepped in to cover the office while Janine was out, to Janine Morrow for stepping back in, and to both for the exceptional administrative work of creating bulletins and all the behind the scenes work of Lent and Easter! Our church is an embarrassment of riches and we are blessed by all who give of themselves to make this ministry happen.

Beyond words of thanks, I'll leave you with a poem by Jan Richardson which she wrote as a reflection to Mary Magdalene's encounter with the risen Lord on Easter Sunday. From her book, *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*, *The Magdalene's Blessing; For Easter Day*:

You hardly imagined  
Standing here,  
Everything you ever loved

Suddenly returned to you,  
Looking you in the eye  
And calling your name.

And now  
You do not know  
How to abide this hole  
In the center  
Of your chest  
Where a door  
Slams shut  
And swings open  
At the same time,  
Turning on the hinge  
Of your aching  
And hopeful heart.

I tell you,  
This is not a banishment  
From the garden.

This is an invitation,  
A choice,  
A threshold,  
A gate.  
This is your life  
Calling to you  
From a place  
You could never  
Have dreamed,  
But now that you  
Have glimpsed its edge,  
You cannot imagine  
Choosing any other way.

So let the tears come  
As anointing,  
As consecration,  
And then  
Let them go.

Let this blessing  
Gather itself around you.

Let it give you  
What you will need  
For this journey.

You will not remember  
The words-  
They do not matter.

All you need to remember  
Is how it sounded  
When you stood  
In the place of death  
And heard the living  
Call your name.

Joyfully,  
Pastor Bekki

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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Last month, the Congregation Council met for their annual retreat on March 16th. As part of the retreat, the Council began work creating a 3-year strategic plan.

Additionally, at their monthly meeting, delegates were designated to attend the Interfaith Shelter Network's Celestial Nights fundraiser.

Minutes of previous Council meetings are available to review by request to the church office.

## PACIFICA SYNOD NEWS

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Please consider joining or supporting the Pacifica Synod for any of these upcoming events:

- May 1 Deadline to purchase a Pacifica Synod t-shirt as part of the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering fundraiser. If you'd like to support the Youth Gathering, consider purchasing a t-shirt during their fundraiser (ends May 1st.) Go to [www.pacificasynod.org](http://www.pacificasynod.org) to order.
- May 15 Lutheran Lobby Day  
Register for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutheran Lobby Day, taking place in-person, in Sacramento. For more information, go to: [www.lutheranpublicpolicyca.org](http://www.lutheranpublicpolicyca.org)
- June 15 Pacifica Synod Assembly  
This year, the Synod Assembly will be held via Zoom (an A-Zoombly!) with in-person regional gatherings.  
  
The San Diego regional gathering will be held May 4th at Bethlehem Lutheran in Encinitas.



## NEWS FROM THE TREASURER

The Congregation Council held their monthly meeting on March 14, 2024. The following reports are from the treasurer:

Budget Recap	February Actual	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget	Difference Actual:Budget
Income	\$47,067.81	\$77,119.10	\$72,499.96	\$4,619.14
Expense	\$31,036.27	\$57,965.07	\$72,500.04	<\$14,534.97>
Difference	\$16,031.54	\$19,154.03		

### All Are Welcome – Restoration and Renovation Campaign

	February 2024
Beginning Balance	\$155,683.01
Income	\$2,103.96
Expense	\$50.00
Ending Balance	\$157,736.97

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

### Vacation Bible School

**Vacation Bible School 2024**  
**Saints Go Marching In**  
**June 24-28**

**9AM-Noon**  
**\$50**  
**\$30 per sibling**

**Grades K-6th**  
**for '24-'25**  
**school year**

ALL SOULS' LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 ST. PETER'S BY THE SEA LUTHERAN CHURCH

**St. Peter's by the Sea Lutheran Church** and **All Soul's Episcopal Church** are excited to come together this year for, "Saints Go Marching In" Vacation Bible School.

Join us for a week of inspiring stories, loads of fun with games, crafts, music, and impactful friendships!

Whether you have a Sunday morning church routine or not, belong to one of our churches or no church at all, this is a week that will give your kids a hands on place to explore their faith.

We hope to see you there!

Use the QR code to register, or visit our websites:

[www.allsoulspointloma.org](http://www.allsoulspointloma.org)

[www.stpetersbythesea.org](http://www.stpetersbythesea.org)





## MUSIC NOTES

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### *Showers of Blessings*

*Showers of blessings, Showers of blessings we need: Mercy-drops round us are falling, but for the showers we plead.*

I love rain, don't you? I especially love being inside, safe and dry, and no need to go anywhere. We have had a fair amount of rain recently. In fact, it is raining even as I am writing this. Wonderful! There are times—including recently—when rain is a hindrance, but mostly it is the bringer of good things. We know that April showers bring May flowers; rain helps the crops to grow and washes the Earth. We sing songs to celebrate the rain: "Let a Smile be Your Umbrella," "Pennies from heaven," "Singing in the rain," "Come Rain or Come Shine," "It's Raining Men," ...well, maybe not that last one.

One of my favorite rain songs is the old hymn, *Showers of Blessings*, written in 1883 by Daniel Webster Whittle (1840–1901) under the pseudonym of D. W. Whittle. Whittle was an officer in the Union forces during the Civil War. After the war he eventually joined the well-known Evangelist, Dwight L. Moody, as an associate evangelist and hymn writer. *Showers of Blessings* is based on Ezekiel 34:26–27: "And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing." In addition to *There Shall Be Showers of Blessing* Whittle also composed *I Know Whom I Have Believed*.

The story is told of a small farming town that was beset by drought. The farmers were so desperate they decided to have a prayer meeting to pray for rain. Members of the community came from far and near to pray for rain. However, only one person brought an umbrella! God has promised us showers, but many of us don't really expect them to appear.

You can hear this hymn here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0\\_y0IuCU8kQ&ab\\_channel=ClassicHymns](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_y0IuCU8kQ&ab_channel=ClassicHymns)

Joe DeMers, Music Minister

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **Hand & Foot Card Game**

All are invited!

The next Hand & Foot is Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Since the game is played in groups of four, be sure to contact Jane Christensen



### **Church Calendar**

The calendar of events for St. Peter's by the Sea can be found on our website: [www.stpetersbythesea.org](http://www.stpetersbythesea.org). The website calendar is updated in real-time and most accurate.

And, as always, any time you want to schedule or cancel an event at St. Peter's (meetings, events, activities, etc.) please notify the church office.

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

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Hello St. Peter's Families and Friends,

Wow we had an awesome March. Our open house brought in the following local community partners:

Artist Outpost	SD Gymnastics	Cans 4 Books	The Stronghold
Communication Lab aba	Val's Coffee	Kids on the Point OT	Point Loma Children's Dentistry

Alumni Makenna served ice cream sundaes!



We also raised just over \$50 for our scholarship fund.

We enjoyed the Zoo, and our Easter fun was awesome. In April we will be Celebrating Earth Day with a partnership with a nonprofit Cans 4 Books. This incredible nonprofit collects recyclable cans and turns them in to buy books for children free of cost. They were a bright spot in our open house, and we can't wait to see them again!

We'll also be taking spring/graduation photo this month and starting our graduation celebration plans!

Lastly, Spottle is up and starting to be more active. He is enjoying his new house and summer home (Where he now cannot escape!)

Warmly,  
Dori Hoadley  
Director, St. Peter's Preschool  
[preschool@stpetersbythesea.org](mailto:preschool@stpetersbythesea.org)  
619-224-1689  
Instagram: St. Peter's Preschool



"Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them." ~ Lady Bird Johnson

## LOAVES AND FISHES

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### April is Loaves & Fishes Month at St. Peter's

April is St. Peter's by the Sea's month to collect non-perishable food items for our community food bank, Ocean Beach Emergency Food (aka Loaves & Fishes). Please be generous as the need is great.

At this time, Loaves & Fishes is in particular need of the following:

- Ready Made Soups with pop tops preferred
- Travel size items: shampoo, soap, conditioner, etc.
- Peanut Butter

Thank you!



## HEALTH AND WELLNESS NEWS

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### **Common SCAMS and How To Protect Yourself From Them**

#### **How to Spot a Scam:**

Criminals and con artists use many schemes and techniques (known as scams). The most obvious sign that someone is a scammer is that they will ask you for money and ask you to act quickly. Scammers will call, text, or email you for a variety of different scams and target unsuspecting people to get access to your money and personal identifiable information to access your bank accounts or computer. They want you to pay for a service you do not need or pay money in order to receive a prize, lottery or sweepstakes you won, or even to help someone else saying that person is in desperate need of money. They even act friendly and helpful to gain your trust.

#### **Imposter Scams:**

Scammers will call you pretending to be from the IRS, Social Security, Medicare, or other agencies. They can also pretend to be a representative of a reputable business or company that you are familiar with or have used in the past. They will ask for your personal information, typically your Social Security or Medicare number in order to steal your identity. Or they will tell you that your social security number and bank accounts are frozen and you need to send money in order to access your bank account.

They promise that they are calling to help you. **JUST HANG UP!**

*Note: Government offices (e.g. IRS and Social Security) will never call you.*

#### **Internet/Email Scams:**

Also known as Phishing, scammers use email or text messages to trick you into giving them your personal information. They try to steal your passwords, account numbers, even Social Security numbers. If they are successful, they could gain access to your email, bank, or other accounts. Thousands of phishing attacks like these are launched every day, and they're often successful.

#### **Grandparent Scams:**

Sadly, another common scam includes exploiting grandparents' love and concern for their grandchildren, and typically goes something like this: The grandparent gets a call from someone posing as his or her grandchild. This person explains, in a frantic-sounding and even familiar voice, that he or she is in some kind of trouble, such as an accident, or an arrest. They need money to get out of jail or pay an attorney from the accident. They want you to act fast!

**HANG UP!** You can call your grandchild directly to check.

#### **Romance Scams:**

Adults of all ages are going online in hopes of finding love and companionship. Scammers know this and are trolling social media and dating sites. They will engage with you promising friendship, love and sometimes marriage but they need money for a variety of reasons. They say the right words to keep you engaged and they always have a need for your money.

#### **Computer Tech Support Scams:**

Scammers take advantage of your reasonable concerns about computer viruses and other threats, but their real goal isn't to protect your computer. Instead, they want to sell you useless services, steal your credit card number, or install malware, which lets them see everything on your computer.

#### **A few of the ways to protect yourself and your money:**

Keep your personal information confidential including your multi factor authentication code, usernames, and passwords.

Do NOT share any information with anyone you don't know or trust.

If you do open an email and feel it is suspicious, do NOT open any attachments. Click on the three vertical dots on the right of the email and you will be given an opportunity to select "report as spam or phishing." Do not be afraid to do this or ask a trusted person you know to help you with this. This will save you from a lot of grief and suffering you could have if the scammer was successful.

**BIRTHDAYS**

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**April B-days****Day**

1	Valerie L
8	Leah
8	Ellen S
9	Liz
14	Kevin
15	Anthony
19	Brenda J
23	Christy G
28	Jon O
30	Solveig F

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

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**We keep the following members of St. Peter's in our prayers:**

Sue, Lorraine, Elaine

**Our homebound members and those in care facilities:**

Keith, Dolores, Janet, Jane H., Carolyn, Dante, Diane B.

**Our members with on-going concerns:**

Ann Z., Babette, Lily

**Our military, police, fire fighters, first responders, healthcare providers, and all who work for peace.**

To request prayer, please contact the church office or write your request on a Welcome Card on Sunday. Names of loved ones require regular updates to remain on our prayer list. Thank you.



**ST. PETER'S BY THE SEA LUTHERAN CHURCH****1371 SUNSET CLIFFS BLVD.****SAN DIEGO, CA 92107-3845**

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**EVENTS OF INTEREST**

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April 6	St. Peter's Hikers
April 12	Hand & Foot Card Game
April 13	St. Peter's Bikers

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**ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

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Sundays	8:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 a.m.	Worship Service, live-streamed
	7:00 p.m.	Al-Anon Meeting "Courage to Change"
Tuesdays	9:30 a.m.	Church Mice/Christian Service
	12:30 p.m.	Ta'i Chi Class
	4:00 p.m.	AA Meeting "Sobriety Seekers"
Third Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Women's Book Study (resumes in Sept.)
Thursdays	5:30 p.m.	NA Meeting "Eleven-11"
First Friday	8:15 a.m.	St. Peter's serves at TACO
Second Friday	6:00 p.m.	Hand & Foot Card Game
First Saturday		Hiking Group (time & location varies)
Second Saturday		Bicycling Group (time & location varies)