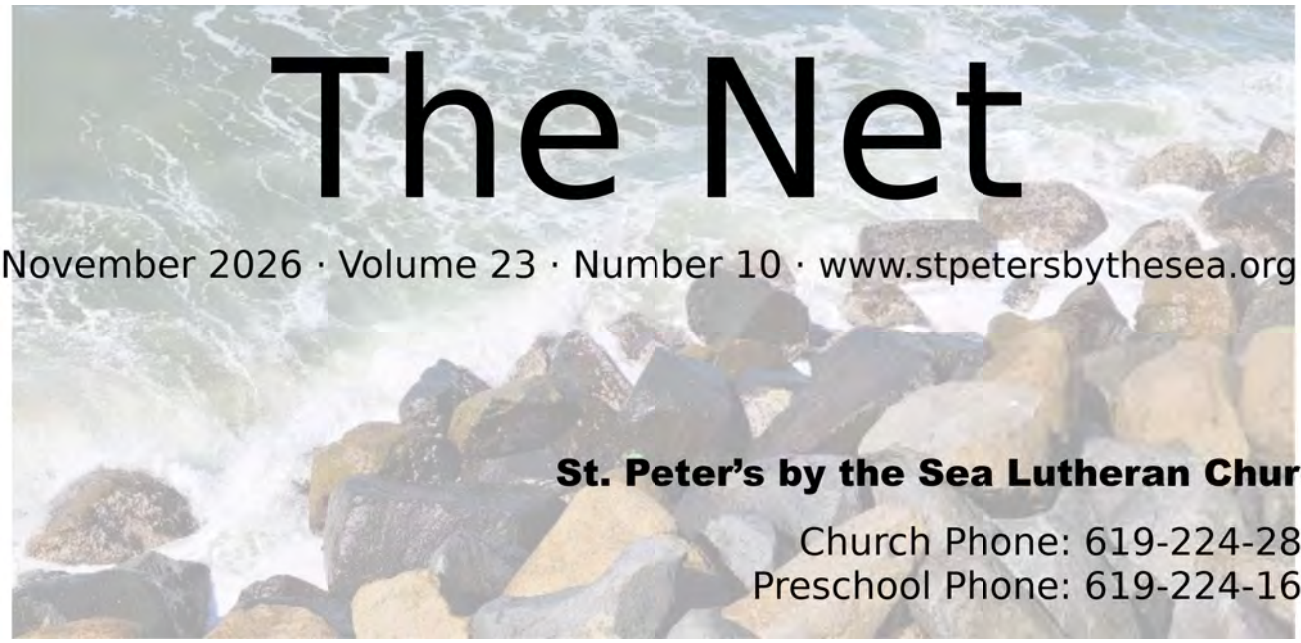


Worship Services

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

Staff

Rev. Bekki Lohrmann, pastor
pastor@stpetersbythesea.org

Janine Morrow, Office Administrator
office@stpetersbythesea.org

Dori Hoadley, Preschool Director
preschool@stpetersbythesea.org

Joe DeMers, Music Minister
Music.minister@stpetersbythesea.org

Betty Wells, Hospitality Coordinator

Hannah DeMers, Newsletter Editor

2026 Council

Greg Lommen, President
Jennifer Smart, Vice-President
Allison Crews, Secretary
Ellen Schmeding, Treasurer
Gabi Hughes; Chance McGinley-Kase; Fletcher Miller; Steve Silva

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Hello Dear Church,

We are on our way rejoicing as we continue to walk the walk of faith down the road towards a new sanctuary. The last month has been incredible in the following ways:

- We hosted three home gatherings attended by 32 households, each one offering good food and meaningful connection with each other and the details of the campaign
- We had a zoom "home gathering" for 6 more households of snow birds and others who had to miss the in-person gatherings
- 23 individuals from our congregation volunteered to serve on the campaign leadership team! These people worked HARD in the last month and for each of them I am grateful!
- We had a wonderful Gratitude and Ministry Sunday Worship on October 4 with spectacular music thanks to Joe DeMers, Pete Chan, and Dale Flemming!
- We had a wonderful Celebration Sunday and Prayer Event on October 18 and are so grateful to the women who planned and executed this effort.
- We are seeing incredible—I mean incredible—generosity within our congregation and maybe more than that, incredible commitment to God's church in this place.
- Brenda Johnson, our church bookkeeper, has run countless financial scenarios, helping us to create a financial road map to making this dream a reality.
- And last but not least, we announced on Celebration Sunday that as of October 18, we had received a total of **29 early commitments totaling $1,387,000 towards our goal of $1,750,000 which means we are 79% of the way to our goal for the Deeper and Wider Campaign!**

And friends, the capital campaign is not all that our church is up to in these days! St. Peter's has also:

- Taken a major leadership role in the creation of the **Anchor Station**, a drop-in resource center in Ocean Beach where our unhoused neighbors and neighbors in need can take care of essential business. Darlene Truver is our representative to this committee and is also the chair-person for the ecumenical steering team!
- We are working behind the scenes to host **Interfaith Shelter** for the entire month of February and inviting new partners to join us in this venture.
- Our **deacons** and I have been praying for and visiting folks in hospitals and nursing homes and at home.
- We're putting together **Trunk or Treat** for the neighborhood and preschool community
- Our **Visitation Choir** is making 2-3 visits a month, bringing church to those who cannot attend, and it has been BEAUTIFUL!

All in all, God is good and clearly at work in this place. Thank you to everyone who give of themselves to make our church a place that continues to share the love of God deeper and wider!

Peace,
Pastor Bekki

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

How is financing going to work for this new sanctuary?

For those who did not attend a home gathering, the way we plan to achieve our goal of a new, $3.5 million-dollar sanctuary is as follows:

Savings: We anticipate starting 2027 with $300K in our account, apart from money that will come in through the Deeper and Wider Campaign

Other Assets: Right now the council is looking into the potential sale of the lease on our Verizon Cell Tower and subsequent alternative revenue streams utilizing our parking lot to replace the lost monthly income on the cell tower. If this proves to be a worthwhile venture, it could bring in over $300K towards the project.

Campaign #1: The Deeper and Wider Campaign (2026-2029) will raise $1.5 - $1.75 million dollars

Campaign #2: (2030-2033) will raise $790K - $1.2 Million

Debt: We will carry $700K of debt for which, at present, our congregation could make monthly payments of roughly $5,300 out of our annual budget.

Note: When we run scenarios of these funding pathways, we anticipate an interest rate of 6.75% and we have factored in the cost of interest on the project.

NEWS FROM THE TREASURER

The Congregation Council held their monthly meeting on October 15, 2026. The following reports are from the treasurer:

Budget Recap	September Actual	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget	Difference Actual:Budget
Income	$47,781.45	$342,593.49	$304,874.91	$37,718.58
Expense	$48,114.90	$299,534.03	$304,875.00	<$5,340.97>
Difference	<$333.45>	$43,059.46		

St. Peter's by the Sea Building Fund September 2026

September 2026	General Maint. & Repairs	Sanctuary Remodel	Total Building Funds
Beginning Balance	$112,693.19	$254,998.38	$367,691.57
Income	$595.07	$0	$595.07
Expense	$20,008.03	$8,750.00	$28,758.03
Ending Balance	$93,280.23	$246,248.38	$339,528.61

St. Peter's by the Sea Building Fund **Year-to-Date 2026**

	General Maint. & Repairs	Sanctuary Remodel	Total Building Funds
Beginning Balance January 1, 2026	$105,549.31	$260,190.22	$365,739.59
Receipts	$11,109.39	$15,467.96	$26,577.35
Expenses	$23,378.47	$29,409.80	$52,788.27
Ending Balance September 30, 2026	$93,280.23	$246,248.38	$339,528.61

MUSIC NOTES

Autumn and spring seem to be the times when we pay attention to the world around us. In the spring, we notice the green shoots in the ground, green buds on trees, crocuses poking through the snow (if you live where there is snow!), and the yellow blooms on the forsythia. In autumn—again, depending on where you live—we see the leaves explode into brilliant colors and then fall to the ground, the flowers drop their petals, and the grass turns brown. Perhaps we notice it most in these seasons because we can see the change every day. Summer gives us nice day after nice day and winter days run together waiting for that first glimpse of green.

One of my favorite contemporary choral composers, John Rutter, has written a harvest anthem about this called "Look at the World." His lyrics encourage observing and appreciating the beauty in nature and acknowledging that all things come from God. In looking at the world around us including the earth, sky, hills, and trees, it notes the many miracles and joys in creation. It is a hymn of praise to God for all creation, the changing seasons, and gifts from God like spring, summer, harvest, and winter. Rutter's lyrics identify humanity as stewards of God's bounty, something which is of greater emphasis now than when he wrote it in 1996.

Praise to thee O Lord for all creation
Give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share and every blessing
All things come of thee

A wonderful presentation of this is on John Rutter's own Facebook page. I hope you will take a look and a listen: https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=796593636711868

Joe DeMers, Music Minister

PACIFICA SYNOD NEWS

Doing ministry has always been hard, but in this current day and age, it can be exhausting. Sometimes you just need some time to breathe.

That's why, from October 13 to 15, 2026, almost a hundred pastors, deacons, youth leaders, lay leaders, church staff members, and other ministry leaders in both Pacifica and Southwest California synods returned one last time to the high desert of La Quinta, California, for Theoasis.

It was a time of recuperative collaboration, as several guest speakers offered insights into self-care, refreshment, and encouragement to continue carrying out the gospel mission wherever the Lord might lead.

In addition to encouraging words from speakers, there was also a worship service led by Rev. Manuel Retamoza, pastor of Border Church, who demonstrated the exact worship liturgy they use on Sunday afternoons at the border.

"The wall is huge," Rev. Retamoza said, "but the altar of Jesus is bigger."

The attendees also heard from Southwest California Synod Bishop Brenda Bos, who presided over the opening worship, and Pacifica Synod Bishop David Nagler, who held a Q&A session to close out the event.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Dear St. Peter's families and friends,

We are officially immersed in the fall! After all the lingering heat of summer, we are finally able to enjoy the cooling temperatures and the fall activities that come with it. In October, we celebrated our pets and got visits from puppies and bunnies and all different kinds of furry and scaly friends. We had a fun field trip to the pumpkin patch where we explored our way through a corn maze, collected pumpkins, and cut our own sunflowers. The hayride and petting zoo were particular favorites. We had our annual pumpkin decorating contest with a winning prize of an Azucar gift card—always a hit!

We also want to say a big THANK YOU to everyone in the church and community who do such a wonderful job hosting our Trunk-or-Treat! So many come out and celebrate together and it's a much looked forward to event every year.

The kids did an exceptional job participating in the *The Great California Shakeout* on 10/15, and Spottle made it out with us as well. The kids are really growing and learning and continuing to impress us all.

Looking toward November, we are focusing on Gratitude. Our Thanksgiving program will take place on November 25, and another big thank you to the church for hosting us. We appreciate you! School will end early that day at 1 p.m., and then we will be closed Thursday and Friday to celebrate the holiday with our families and friends.

I hope joy finds you as we enter into this holiday season.

With love and gratitude,
Bekah Mack-Richards

St. Peter's Preschool
619-224-1689
www.stpetersbythesea.org
Instagram: St. Peter's_Preschool

"Anyone who does anything to help a child is a hero to me." ~ Mr. Rogers

CHRISTIAN SERVICE TEAM

Christian Service 2027 Planning Meeting
Sunday, Nov. 8, after Worship

Please grab some coffee and join us for an open Christian Service meeting. We will be finalizing our Christian Service calendar for 2027, and we want your input. In addition to affirming our current activities, we will explore adding support to our military community. All are welcome.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be on the look-out for our annual Angel Tree, arriving Sunday, November 29!

Planning is still in the works as of publication but we recognize that every child deserves to feel the wonder of Christmas and we are working to make that happen for those in our community.



TACO NEWS

As the holidays approach, you've undoubtedly heard about "Giving Tuesday" and have probably noticed its rising popularity, year after year. The day—**the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving**; this year it's **December 1, 2026**—has become one of the most important fundraising days on the calendars of nonprofits. Here's why.

Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement started in 2012 as a response to the consumerism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday. A one-day, online fundraising event has grown into a worldwide phenomenon that encourages individuals to give back in various ways, not just financially.

Origins and rapid growth:

- Created as a counter-movement. The day was established by the 92nd Street Y and the United Nations Foundation in New York City with the idea of a day dedicated to "doing good." The concept was to ***shift focus from the post-Thanksgiving shopping rush to generosity.***
- It quickly went global. Since its inception in 2012, Giving Tuesday has expanded significantly beyond the U.S. As of 2024, the movement is **active in over 105** countries and more than 300 communities worldwide.
- No registration required. The movement is an open-source, decentralized idea. People do not need to officially register to participate. This free-to-join structure has helped it spread and allowed individuals as well as organizations of any size to participate.

Powerful financial and community impact

- Enormous fundraising growth. In its first year, Giving Tuesday raised just over $10 million. In 2024, the amount of money donated in the U.S. alone hit a record-breaking **$3.6 billion**, bringing the total **since 2012** to over **$18.5 billion**.
- Small gifts add up. **The vast majority of gifts on Giving Tuesday are small**, everyday donations. This shows that *collective action from millions of people giving small amounts is what creates the largest impact*.
- A strong kickoff to the giving season. Giving Tuesday acts as a powerful launch for the year-end giving season. Many givers use it as a **ceremonial kickoff to their holidays**!

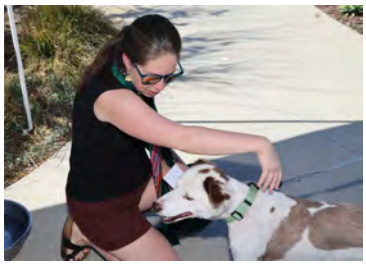
Summary

Giving Tuesday is a global movement that encourages generosity in many forms, including volunteering, donating goods, and advocating for causes, not just financial contributions. The event serves as a major kickoff for the giving season, inspiring ongoing generosity and supporting nonprofits throughout the year.

As for TACO, Giving Tuesday has become one of our **most-important days** on the fund-raising calendar. If you're participating in Giving Tuesday, please **think of TACO on Tuesday, December 1, 2026**!

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE NEWS

Our annual Blessing of the Pets was held last month on the Feast Day of Saint Francis of Assisi. St. Francis is considered the patron saint of animals, and we had a wonderful turn-out. In addition to blessing 11 animals, the organization Pups' N Boots was onsite for puppy adoptions.





BIRTHDAYS

November B-days	
Day	
2	David Carter
4	Jennifer Smart
9	Rowena Neiley
10	Christina Fadden
13	Maxton Tellez
13	Jeff Cours
14	Sabrina Bochen
14	Jennifer Zimmermann
15	Sandie Boelter
28	Carolyn Irby
29	Chloe Gilsdorf



IN OUR PRAYERS

We keep the following members of St. Peter's in our prayers:
Jo, Darlene Th., Elaine, Lauren G.

Our homebound members and those in care facilities:
Keith, Carolyn, Diane B., Dante, Diane S.

Our members with on-going concerns:
Ann Z., Babette, Carlos, Lora, Lily, Patty L..

Our military, police, fire fighters, first responders, healthcare providers, and al



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 o you.

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

EVENTS OF INTEREST

November 1	All Saints' Sunday
November 25	Preschool Thanksgiving Event
November 29	First Sunday of Advent

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

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
	4:00 p.m.	AA Meeting "Sobriety Seekers"
First Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Third Tuesday	12:30 p.m.	Women's Book Study
Thursdays	5:30 p.m.	NA Meeting "Eleven-11"
First Friday	8:30 a.m.	St. Peter's serves at TACO
Second Friday	6:00 p.m.	Hand & Foot Card Game
Second Saturday		Biking Group (time & location varies)
Fourth Saturday		Hiking Group (time & location varies)