

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

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

2025 Council

Pat Hendrickson, President

Ellen Schmeding, Vice-President

Allison Crews, Secretary

Richard Nielsen, Treasurer

Sandra Boelter; Greg Lommen; Liz Medina; Jacquelyn Romero; Betty Wells

Dear People of St. Peter's,

We kick this month off with All Saints Sunday on Nov. 2, and we are going to do it up big this year! We're bringing in a jazz combo and will be singing big, bold songs like "O When The Saints Go Marching In," at which time, we will march in pictures of our saints from St. Peter's who have died in the past five years.

Janet H.
Kendall S.
Bobby S.
Delores (Dee) S.
Lorrayne J.
Dora A.
Carol M.
Leon M.
Terri W.
Wayne T.
Beverly M.
Dave H.
Marcia T.
Rosalin (Rose) E.
Doris D.
Kevin S.
Violet (Vi) F.
Bruce T.
JT B.
Mary M.
Mathilda (Bobbi) H.

Of course we will all also be carrying with us the memories of so many others who live on in our hearts past death—friends, parents, children, grandparents, and loved ones.

I imagine we will feel a collision of emotions on this day. I spend a lot of time watching the show "Ms. Rachel" with Isaak (2), which is a show for toddlers. In that show she sings, "Big feelings are ok! I'm not afraid of your big feelings." I hope that this All Saints day you

will feel the church offering you a space for whatever you feel. You may feel feelings of great comfort and joy, remembering these incredible people and the incredible love with which they loved us and we loved them. You also may open your mouth to sing and find that your breath has been taken away by a grief that came up and pounced on your from behind.

I hope it will be a day when we can come together wholeheartedly to remember, celebrate, and grieve.

And so I leave you with these words from writer Jamie Anderson:

“Grief, I’ve learned, is really just love. It’s all the love you want to give, but cannot. All of that unspent love gathers in the corners of your eyes, the lump in your throat, and in the hollow part of your chest. Grief is just love with no place to go.”

And yes, this love does have a place to go. We can express it together in worship on All Saints, and always and forever, we can bring it to God where it will find a home.

Join us for worship on Nov. 2 for All Saints Sunday.

Peace,
Pastor Bekki

FINANCIAL SECRETARY / STEWARDSHIP REPORT

On October 12, we had our annual Consecration Sunday, AKA Pledge Sunday. Below are the responses with a comparison to 2025:

For 2026, we received 37 pledges, as of October 24, for a total of \$191,080.00.

For 2025, we received 41 pledges for a total of \$199,670.00.

For 2026, we have 5 new households pledging but 9 households who pledged in 2025 have not pledged for the coming year; some of that is due to member deaths and moving. As you can see, the number of households pledging reduced by 9% and the total pledged, to date, reduced by 4%.

If you still want to turn in a 2026 pledge, it’s not too late. Your giving pledge helps us to create a more accurate budget. You can email the Financial Secretary at: financialsecretary@stpetersbythesea.org or complete a pledge card on Sunday and drop it in the offering plate.

NEWS FROM THE TREASURER

The Congregation Council held their monthly meeting on October 9, 2025. The following reports are from the treasurer:

Budget Recap	September Actual	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget	Difference Actual:Budget
Income	\$32,738.46	\$304,032.07	\$297,262.53	\$6,769.54
Expense	\$30,124.14	\$272,980.30	\$297,262.62	<\$24,282.32>
Reserve Transfer (exp.)	\$40,000.00	\$126,817.00	\$0	
Difference	<\$37,385.68>	<\$95,765.23>		

All Are Welcome – Restoration and Renovation Campaign

September 2025	General Maint. & Repairs	Sanctuary Remodel	Total Building Funds
Beginning Balance	\$101,668.20	\$190,196.00	\$291,864.20
Income	\$261.87	\$60,000.00	\$60,261.87
Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending Balance	\$101,930.07	\$250,196.00	\$352,126.07

PACIFICA SYNOD NEWS

Dates for 2026 Regional Gatherings, "A-Zoom-bly"

We are pleased to announce the dates and locations for next year's in-person regional gatherings and our all-synod assembly being held over Zoom. Save the date!

Regional Gatherings (from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

- April 25, 2026 – Hawaii (at LC of Honolulu)
- May 2, 2026 – Inland Empire (Trinity, Riverside)
- May 9, 2026 – Orange County (Bethlehem, Los Alamitos)
- **May 16, 2026 – San Diego (Clairemont, San Diego)**

And the A-Zoom-bly (starting at 12 p.m. PDT):

- June 20, 2026

Watch this space for more details as they become available!

MUSIC NOTES

Last month I went to North Carolina to spend 10 days with Martha at her house there. We made two trips along the Blue Ridge Parkway—a glorious winding road through the Smoky Mountains. Standing just about anywhere along the parkway you get an incredible view of seemingly endless row after row of blue mountains.



Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748) was an English minister, theologian, logician, and hymn writer who never visited America, but I think one of his most beloved hymns is a musical depiction for the Smoky Mountains: *Oh God, Our Help in Ages Past*. The Smoky Mountains are estimated to be between 200 and 300 million years old, making them one of the oldest mountain ranges on earth! At one

time, they were probably steep peaks like the Rockies, but millions of years of erosion have rounded them into the ridges that exist today. “Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame, from everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same... A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone; short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.”

Sunrise and sunset in the mountains are often brilliant and breath taking. The “smoke” that gives them their name is better described as fog or mist. Despite rumors of hillbilly moonshine stills causing the smoke, the mist is formed from the vapor given off by all the vegetation in the mountains. When the vapor is released, the molecules that make up the gas scatter blue light from the sky, giving the fog its blue color.

To be in the presence of such enduring beauty is to be reminded of the psalm: “I shall lift up my eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help...” These mountains have stood for millions of years, and will—hopefully—stand for millions more, reminding us that while our lives are transient, God is not.

“Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Be Thou our guard while troubles last, And our eternal home.”

Joe DeMers, Music Minister



ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Wine into Water” Fundraiser
November 8th, 3:00-7:00 p.m.
St. Paul’s Cathedral

For more information, scan this
QR Code or see the flyer on the
bulletin board.



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Dear St. Peter's families and friends,

Welcome fall! We are enjoying the cooler temperatures and all the fun activities it brings to the preschool. Congratulations to Lila and family for winning the family pumpkin decorating contest. They took home a \$20 gift card to Azucar. We enjoyed our Pumpkin Station Bonita Farm field trip with over 60 children and just as many adults were welcomed with open arms.



We are now focused on Thanksgiving and will be celebrating indigenous people of our region, food and cooking, families of all kinds, and being grateful!

We will have another author meet and greet this month with Susan Frazee, a local children's author, who will be coming by November 12 to read her book William Snell and his Worm Motel to our three older classes. She will also be bringing worms and the various stages of composting. We are so excited to welcome her to St. Peter's preschool.

We will be having our annual Thanksgiving event on Nov. 26 and will close at 1:00 p.m., and be closed full days on November 27 and 28.

We are starting the process of renovating the children's bathroom, repairing the drywall, painting, and hopefully a wider scope project as well! Stay tuned for more information!

I hope the beginning of the holiday season finds you well and happy.

Warmly,

Dori Hoadley
Director, St. Peter's Preschool
preschool@stpetersbythesea.org
619-224-1689

FALL BIBLE STUDY

Fall Bible Study



JOIN PASTOR BEKKI FOR A DIVE INTO
EACH SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURES!

WEDNESDAYS 2:30-4:00

IN PERSON

OCT 1, 8, 22, 29 & NOV 5, 12, 19

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Endowment Committee met on October 22, 2025. Members present included Gail Bennett, Kevin Box, Richard Doering, Richard Montgomery, Kathy Rahilly, Darlene Thygerson, and Pastor Bekki Lohrmann.

The Financial Secretary's report was presented for the quarter ending September 30, 2025; there was \$5,881.52 total available for distribution.

Matching funds requests were received for: Lutheran Disaster Relief Texas Floods and Third Avenue Charitable Organization (TACO).

The Mission Investment Fund Account 389 6-year (72-months) CD in the amount of \$62,259.58 that was due to mature 8/17/2025 was renewed by Richard for 5 years (60 months) at 4.42%.

Below is a summary of the distribution of funds.

Missions and Programs Grants:

- ◇ Third Avenue Charitable Organization
- ◇ Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission
- ◇ ELCA Disaster Response – Texas Floods

Outreach Grants:

- ◇ Ocean Beach Emergency Fund (Loaves & Fishes)
- ◇ Peninsula Shepherd Center
- ◇ Agape House

Educational Grants:

- ◇ Scholarships to Even S., Ian S., Hannah Z. and Elina P.
- ◇ Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission

Building Grants

- ◇ Building Maintenance

The next meeting will be held on January 28, 2026. If you have matching fund requests for the Endowment Committee to consider, send your checks and information to the church office.

IN MEMORIUM

We remember those who have recently died and keep their families in our prayers. Christian sympathy is offered to the family and friends of:

- ✠ Sept. 27 – Kendall S.
- ✠ Oct. 15 – Janet H.

BIRTHDAYS

November B-days

Day

2	David Carter
4	Jennifer Smart
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:

Darlene M-T, Joan, Patty L., Fernando

Our homebound members and those in care facilities:

Keith, Jane H., Carolyn, Dante, Diane B., Carmell

Our members with on-going concerns:

Ann Z., Babette, Lily, Carlos, Lora

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

EVENTS OF INTEREST

November 2	All Saints' Sunday
November 8	Wine into Water Fundraiser
November 21	Thanksgiving Pie Party

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Sundays	8:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 a.m.	Worship Service, live-streamed; Sunday School
	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	6:30 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	Bicycling Group (time & location varies)	
Fourth Saturday	Hiking Group (time & location varies)	