



Peter's Net

Mar/Apr 2026

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From the Desk of Pastor Rob:

As the long Canadian winter slowly loosens its grip and the first signs of green push through the soil, we are reminded once again that God's creation is always leaning toward life. Here in rural Perth County, the lengthening days, the returning birds, and the softening fields preach their own quiet sermon. Spring does not arrive all at once—but steadily, faithfully, persistently.

At St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, we enter this season of thaw and light with hearts attuned to the promise of Easter. The story of resurrection is not simply a dramatic moment in the church calendar; it is the pattern woven into the fabric of creation itself. What appears barren becomes fruitful. What seems silent begins to sing. What feels lost is found again in new form.

Easter proclaims that death does not have the final word. For first-century disciples standing at an empty tomb, that truth came as astonishment and trembling hope. For us today, Easter meets us in quieter but no less profound ways: in healing after illness, in reconciliation after conflict, in courage after grief, in love that endures beyond loss. Resurrection is not only something that happened—it is something that continues to happen wherever God brings life out of what seemed finished.

Springtime has long been a sacred season across many faith traditions. In Judaism, Passover recalls liberation and the journey from bondage to freedom. In Islam, Ramadan (which often falls near spring)

calls believers into renewal through prayer, fasting, and generosity. In Hindu traditions, Holi celebrates the triumph of light and good over darkness. Across cultures and centuries, human beings have looked at the greening earth and recognized a holy rhythm: renewal follows hardship; dawn follows night.

As Christians, we see in Easter the fullest expression of that rhythm. In Christ's resurrection, we trust that God's love is stronger than fear, stronger than injustice, stronger even than death. This does not deny the reality of suffering. Rather, it assures us that suffering is not the end of the story. For many in our congregation, this spring may carry tender memories or ongoing burdens. Some are grieving loved ones. Some are facing health challenges. Some are navigating uncertainty about the future. Easter does not rush us past these realities. Instead, it gently places hope beside them. Just as the earth does not bloom overnight, so too our healing and renewal unfold in their own time. God is patient with the seasons of our hearts.

In these coming weeks, as you notice the first crocuses, the hum of tractors in the fields, or the warmth of the sun lingering a little longer each evening, may you hear in them a quiet echo of the Easter promise: Life is stirring. Hope is rising. Love endures.

May this spring renew not only our landscapes but our spirits. May it draw us closer to one another. And may the risen Christ meet us—in worship, in community,

and in the ordinary beauty of this season— with peace that steadies and joy that gently grows.

Christ is risen.

And in ways both seen and unseen, new life is still unfolding among us.

Peace and growth to you/us all!

Pastor Rob

Notes from church council:

As we find our spiritual way through the paths of our Lenten journey, the prayers of our church council members are with all the members of St. Peter's. May we find peace, harmony and blessings on our way to the joys of the Easter season.

Thanks to all who attended our February 8th annual congregational meeting. We addressed the old and new business in good time and spirits, making decisions for the business and health of our church family. A few points to relay to you:

- Worship time will remain at 10:30 AM year round
- Annual church cleaning will be Saturday, March 21 at 9 AM
- Arbor Day will be held in April, more info to come
- New digital church sign was given permission to proceed
- Support for youth attending youth camp at Camp Kintail was approved
- Members approved the forming of a Youth Group committee to assist Pastor Rob

Our new church council members are Murray Rose, Dale Bennewies and Karen McKinney, and many thanks to our outgoing council Dianne Beuerman, Jo-Anne Horan and Greg Beuermann.

Some upcoming maintenance work being addressed for spring attention:

- Front pavement repairs and repainting of parking spot lines
- An issue with the parsonage septic tank and piping
- Ceiling paint in sacristy is flaking and will need to be professionally evaluated as to cause and repair

Any questions, please bring them to any member of church council, we are here to serve.

Deb Elligsen

Church Council Co-Secretary

Pancake Supper Thanks

A huge thank-you to all who helped make our pancake supper a success! We served 90 people and collected \$835 for Youth Unlimited. Thanks to Pastor Rob and our confirmation crew for cooking, serving and supplying dessert – Jason, Scarlett, Jordan, Mack, Drew, Luke and Parker plus Clara, Ella, Violet and Abby. Special thanks to our hardworking adult crew – Grace, Wayne, Ashley and Peter.

Debby Bennewies

Fundraising Cornhole Tournament

Grab a partner and register your 2-person team for the Cornhole Tournament taking place on Saturday, March 28 starting at 10AM at the Brodhagen Community Centre. This is a fun-filled community event with proceeds going to St. Peter's Improvement Fund.

The cost to register a team is \$80 and there are cash prizes for the top 4 teams. 3 games are guaranteed. Food & drinks will be available.

Register before March 15 with Kelsey Bennewies at 519-276-1686. Let the bags fly and may the best team win!

Financial Update to February 11, 2026

	YTD Income	YTD Spent	Difference
General	11,720.00	17,480.00	-5,760.00
Missions	340.00	0	340.00
Improvement	425.00	0	425.00

Adult Education / Bible Study

St Peter's is proud to host an Introduction to World Religions program in 2026. We have had between 8-12 participants. So far, we have explored the first religions from the Middle East, including Zoroastrianism and Judaism. In the coming months of March and April we will continue to learn about religions from the Middle East including Christianity (as well as there various Protestant denominations come from), Islam (including a session on Jihad, the role of women, and a DVD on the pilgrimage to Mecca), Baha'i, and Rastafarianism.

We meet every Tuesday evening in the church basement at 7pm. You do not need to attend every session to participate in the program. You are welcome to attend sessions on a religion that you are interested in. ALL are welcome!

Junior Confirmation resumes

Confirmation classes continue. The students have been learning about Martin Luther, the Reformation, the Small Catechism, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostle's Creed, and the Sacraments. In the upcoming portion of the program, the confirmands will be applying what they have learned in this program to modern day realities and questions. For example, we will learn about the role of faith to help eradicate poverty and homelessness. We will also explore issues and topics such as world religions and interfaith dialogue, ecumenism, pop culture and the role of faith in movies, TV, music and literature, mental health, and meditation/prayer practices.

It is hoped that Confirmation Day will be in early to mid-June. More info about this

celebration will come in the next edition of Peter's Net.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter

As we are now in the season of Lent, you are invited to participate in any or all our upcoming services during Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Please mark your calendars and join us as you are able:

Seaforth Mid-Week Lenten Luncheon at St Peter's – Wednesday March 18 at 12 noon – guest speaker is MP John Nater – free-will offerings to Seaforth Hospital

Palm Sunday – Sun. March 29 at 10:30AM
Maundy Thursday Agape Meal – Thursday April 02 at 6:30PM in the basement

Good Friday CrossWalk – Friday April 03 at 9:30AM through the cemetery

Good Friday Service – Friday April 03 at 10:30AM

Easter Sunday – Sunday April 05 at 10:30AM

Seaforth Ministerial Lenten Lunches on Wednesdays

Feb. 25 - Northside United - Michelle Millar & Ryan Erb/ United Way

March 4 - Parish of the Holy Spirit - Gord Franklin/Seaforth Food Bank

March 11 - Egmondville United - The Well Community Collective

March 18 - St Peter's – MP John Nater/ Seaforth Hospital

March 25 - St James (at Northside) - Helen Van Bakel/ Room 2 Grow

April 1 - Cavan United (Winthrop) - Lori Vermeersch/Huron County Emergency Services

What? Where?

This series explores the history of the objects and people in our church. Over the years, many items have been donated and most of us never see the inscriptions. The hope is to 'see' the objects that are 'just' part of the fabric of our church and remember those who donated them. Thanks to Elaine Dietz for the suggestion.



Last month some stain glass windows were highlighted. The sanctuary windows with the figures have always been amazing parts of our church and often commented on; however, there are others that escape notice or are in lesser-visited parts of the church.

Item 1 "A Gift from Katie Ritz" is over the west entrance door. Take a minute on your way down the steps on either side to appreciate this window or the identical east-side 'John Ritz' window.

Item 2 "Donated by August and Katie Hillebrecht" is in the west balcony entrance along with the other window donated by Jacob and Christine Gloor. Pictured is the window in the east balcony entrance donated by Heinrich and Caroline Rock and the other by the F. Puschelberg Family. These windows are of a much simpler style than the sanctuary windows, but the geometric shapes and colours are gorgeous.

A church goer complained that he'd gone to church for over three decades; heard over 3,000 sermons, but "for the life of me I can't recall even one". He concluded that both he and the pastors were wasting their time. To which a quiet-speaking gentleman responded: "I've been married for over 30 years. In that time, my wife has cooked over 32,000 meals but for the life of me I can't recall what the menu was for a single one of those meals. But I know this. They nourished me and gave me the strength that I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me those meals, I would be dead today." Nuff said.

Submitted by Wayne Jarmuth

SCRIPTURE READINGS

March/April 2026

Date	Service Description	Title	Readings	Notes
March 1	10:30 AM Holy Communion	Lent 2	Genesis 12:1-4a Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17	9:00 AM Confirmation; Sunday School starts upstairs
March 8	10:30 AM Service of the Word	Lent 3	Exodus 17:1-7 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42	9:00 AM Confirmation; Sunday School starts upstairs
March 15	10:30 Holy Communion	Lent 4	1 Samuel 16:1-13 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41	Family Sunday for Sunday School – March Break
March 22	10:30 AM Service of the Word	Lent 5	Ezekiel 37:1-14 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	Family Sunday for Sunday School – March Break
March 29	10:30 Holy Communion	Palm Sunday	Matthew 21:1-11 Isaiah 50:4-9a Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 27:11-54	9:00 AM Confirmation; Sunday School starts upstairs
April 2	6:30 PM Agape Meal with Holy Communion	Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35	Agape meal with Stripping of the Altar after
April 3	9:30 AM CrossWalk 10:30 AM Good Friday	Good Friday	Isaiah 52:13—53:12 Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1—19:42	
April 5	10:30 Holy Communion	Easter Sunday	Acts 10:34-43 Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10	Sunday School sings in church; stay upstairs
April 12	10:30 AM Service of the Word	Easter 2	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31	9:00 AM Confirmation; Sunday School starts upstairs
April 19	10:30 AM Holy Communion	Easter 3	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35	9:00 AM Confirmation; Sunday School starts upstairs; <i>Deadline for May/June Peter's Net</i>
April 26	10:30 AM Service of the Word	Easter 4	Acts 2:42-47 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10	9:00 AM Confirmation; Sunday School starts upstairs 2:00 PM West Perth Village service
May 3	10:30 AM Holy Communion	Easter 5	Acts 7:55-60 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14	9:00 AM Confirmation; Sunday School starts upstairs

WORSHIP LEADERS SCHEDULE

March/April 2026

Date	Assistant	Acolyte	Communion Washers	Projectionist	Reader	Greeters	Bell Ringer
March 1	Sherri Bennewies	Jordyn Schellenberger	Kevin & Cindy Ludington	Jan Leonhardt	Debby Bennewies	Brighite Aitken family	David Bach
March 8		Mack Schellenberger		Sherri Bennewies	Elaine Dietz	Tracy Gloor family	Bob Bauer
March 15	Lynn Hoegy	Parker Wolfe	John & Bonnie Beimers	Greg Beuermann	Amber Schalk	Paul & Diane Dietz	Bob Bauer
March 22		Wade Aitken		Helene Beuermann	Cindy Ludington	Kevin & Cindy Ludington	Alex Bennewies
March 29	Deb Elligsen	Jasen Beuermann	Greg & Barb Beuermann	Jan Leonhardt	Kim Finlayson	Sharon & Dennis Bennewies	Alex Bennewies
April 2	Murray Rose		Hugh & Doris Dietz		Wayne Jarmuth	Wayne Hugill and Judy Wood Hugill	
April 3				Sherri Bennewies	Grace Brown	Don & Pauline Beuermann	
April 5	Sherri Bennewies	Scarlett Gloor	Sherri Bennewies	Helene Beuermann	Erin/Jeff Robinson	Erin & Jeff Robinson	Doug Dietz
April 12		Luke Kroonen		Greg Beuermann	Peter Lejcar	Linda & Derek Johnston	Doug Dietz
April 19	Lynn Hoegy	Drew Schalk	Jo-Anne Horan family	Jan Leonhardt	Lynn Hoegy	Gloria Gilbert & Cheryl Baillie	David Bach
April 26		Jordyn Schellenberger		Sherri Bennewies	Mary Ann Rose	John & Bonnie Beimers	David Bach
May 3	Deb Elligsen	Mack Schellenberger	Brighite Aitken family	Helene Beuermann	Amy Lejcar	John & Bonnie Elligsen	Bob Bauer

March 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:00 AM Confirmation 10:30 AM Holy Communion	2	3 7:00 PM Adult Education	4	5 7:00 PM Choir Practice	6	7
8 9:00 AM Confirmation 10:30 AM Service of the Word	9	10 7:00 PM Adult Education	11 7:30 PM Council Meeting	12 7:00 PM Choir Practice	13	14
15 10:30 AM Holy Communion	16	17 7:00 PM Adult Education	18 12:00 PM(Noon) Lenten Lunch with MP John Nater speaking	19 7:00 PM Choir Practice	20	21 9:00 AM Annual interior cleaning of the church
22 10:30 AM Service of the Word	23	24 7:00 PM Adult Education	25	26 7:00 PM Choir Practice	27	28 10:00 AM Cornhole Tournament (prior registration required)
29 9:00 AM Confirmation 10:30 AM Holy Communion (Palm Sunday)	30	31 7:00 PM Adult Education				

April 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
				6:30 PM Agape Meal with Holy Communion 8:00 PM Choir Practice	9:30 AM Crosswalk 10:30 AM Good Friday	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00 AM Confirmation 10:30 AM (Easter) Holy Communion		7:00 PM Adult Education	7:30 PM Church Council	7:00 PM Choir Practice		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 AM Confirmation 10:30 AM Service of the Word		7:00 PM Adult Education		7:00 PM Choir Practice		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00 AM Confirmation 10:30 AM Holy Communion		7:00 PM Adult Education		7:00 PM Choir Practice		
26	27	28	29	30		
9:00 AM Confirmation 10:30 AM Service of the Word 2:00 PM West Perth Village		7:00 PM Adult Education		7:00 PM Choir Practice		