

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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September 2026

The Network



**ST. PETER'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAPE COD**

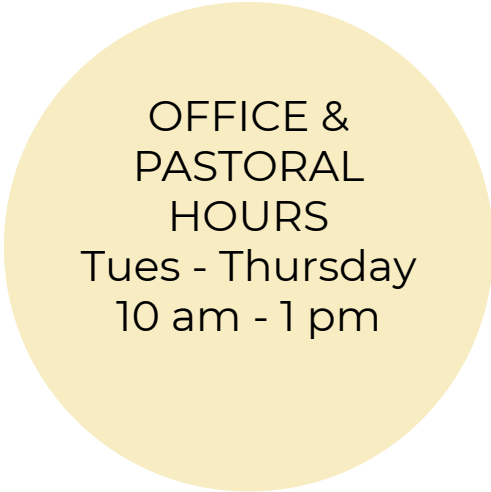
**September
2026**

Phone: 508-432-5172
Email: Office@StPetersCapeCod.org
Website: www.StPetersLutheranCapeCod.org

OUR MISSION & VALUES

Centered in Christ and empowered by God's Spirit, we love, grow and serve.

Our core values:
Christ-centered
Open-minded
Caring
Welcoming
Generous



OFFICE &
PASTORAL
HOURS
Tues - Thursday
10 am - 1 pm

OUR LEADERSHIP

President, Jane Wordsworth '29
Vice President, Chris Janson '29
Secretary, Peg Flood '28
Treasurer, Suzanne Bassett '28
Scribe, Elaine Davis

At Large

Keeton Arnett '27
Juliet Bongfeldt '28
Lynn Hatch '29
Paul Luciano '27
Linda Merriam '28
Gayle Olson '29
Rodney Schuller '27

OUR AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME

Welcome to new visitors and old friends.

We are a **Reconciling in Christ** congregation and strive to welcome people of every age, color and culture, all sexual orientations and gender identities, any socioeconomic status, marital status, ability and challenge.

Welcome to believers and questioners, and to questioning believers. **Welcome** to all who seek Christ's love and grace. This is a place where you are welcome to rejoice and lament, seek healing and offer service.

Welcome in the name of Jesus.

OUR STAFF

Pastor

The Rev. Christophor Gilbert
pastor@stpeterscapecod.org

Ministry Administrator

Tiff DeBarros
office@stpeterscapecod.org

Operations Administrator

Ann German
businessoffice@stpeterscapecod.org

Financial Staff

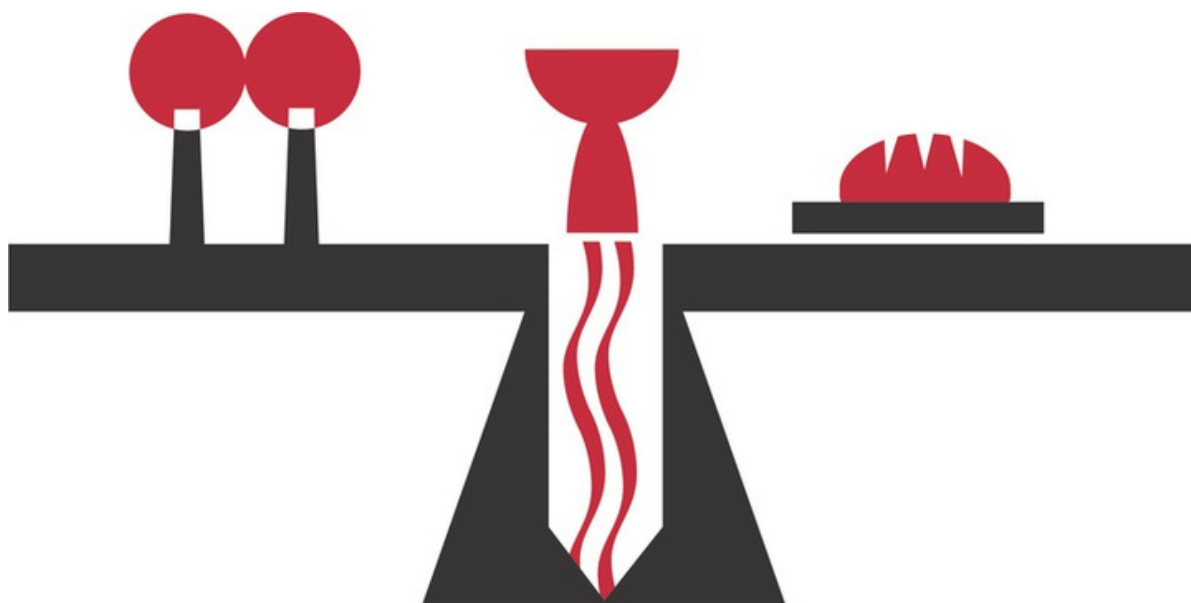
Suzanne Bassett, Treasurer
assistanttr@stpeterscapecod.org

Lois Thomas, Financial Secretary

Lynn Hatch, Asst. Financial Secretary

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From the Pastor

Even though Summer doesn't officially end until September, the transition out of August reminds us that we are embarking on the new beginnings of Fall, and into a new rhythm of our beloved seasons of the church.

Of course, there is a rhythm that can never be changed, regardless of the season. And that is the comforting thrum of God's steadfast love and grace—the very heartbeat of God that runs throughout our scripture.

Though sometimes, the



steadfastness of God—God's consistent and faithful grace—isn't all roses and sunshine. We are continually called to the upside-down way of Jesus, the way of the cross that says "the last will be first and the first will be last" (Matt 20:16).

Thankfully, we get to practice the art of discomfort every time our seasons in the church change.

Before you know it, Advent will be here once again, and with that turning we'll be able to step out, together, in some new ways. And through it all, one thing won't change: our Sunday gathering for worship.

So, come to hear about God's love!

Come to hear about God's uncomfortable grace!

See you in community,

Christophor

The Rev. Christophor Gilbert
Pastor

Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry

Monday 1-3 pm

Tuesday 3:30 - 5 pm

Wednesday 12:30 - 2:30 pm

Friday 10 am - 12 pm

We are grateful for another busy summer of ministry through the Loaves and Fishes Pantry. Thanks to the generosity of our church family and the commitment of the Lower Cape Outreach Council to provide us with increased food, our volunteers have kept the shelves stocked and more than 600 full bags a month heading to our neighbors homes. LCOC just purchased a computer for us and are helping train our wonderful volunteers to start recording and updating client visits digitally. The monthly reports will be much more accurate and make it possible to apply for more food and grants.

A generous donation made it possible to install Air Conditioning in both the pantry and the lobby, so we were able to keep our



produce fresh and our volunteers and families comfortable. Thanks to Tony Esposito, the Property Committee and faithful donors for making this happen.

Another much needed improvement is the "soon to be delivered" new refrigerator to replace the unit that was from 1990. We are deeply grateful for the donations made possible through the sale of Lynn Hatch's husband's paintings and the proceeds from Peg Flood's art and antique sale.

The weekly donations of food items, as well as a number of other generous checks, made it possible to offer our families a nice variety of food items, wonderful fresh produce and also personal and household products. Thanks for caring.

I am especially grateful to all our volunteers for helping these past months. Claudia Bellis kept everything running smoothly and has agreed to continue to manage our orders and deliveries along with anything else that needs to be done and Kathy Glifort has spent many hours stocking our shelves. I was so excited to jump back in once my knee was replaced but am finding it difficult to return to my past schedule due to family and health needs.

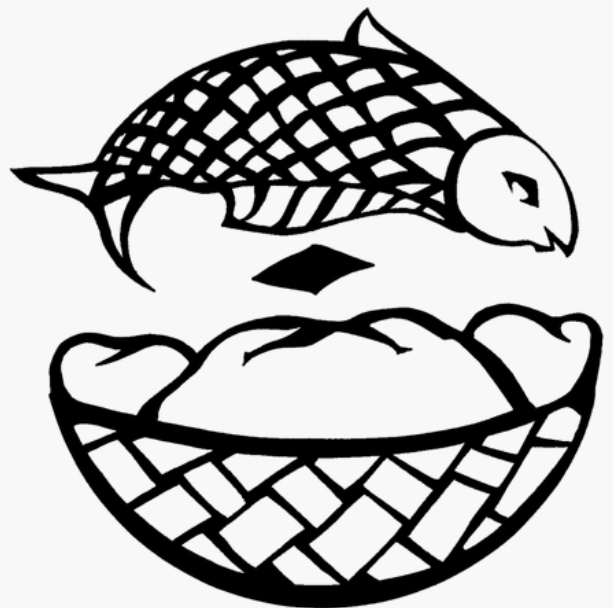
I hope to stay involved but our pantry is busy enough to need a leadership team approach and use technology more. We are looking to include more people so please reach out if you have a few hours a month to help out. Currently we could use someone to pick up donations from Cumberland Farms in Harwich Port one day a week but

look for a number of other opportunities to help out in the near future as our busy fall season begins with the coat, holiday meal and toy voucher sign ups.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat...” Matthew 25:35

Thanks for all your support!

Ruth



St. Peter's Ministries



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The St. Peter's Prayer Shawl Ministry plans to meet on Friday, September 4 at 1:30 in the Luther Room. There will be no meeting on September 18 as members plan to attend the Calumet retreat.

With cooler weather approaching, it will be inviting to have the warmth of a prayer shawl in progress on your lap so please keep knitting (or crocheting)!

**“Thus after a season of
tears a sober and softened
joy may return to us.”**

**Amiel, Journal,
21 September 1868**



Sacred Sorrow

“Grief is neither a problem to be solved nor a difficulty to be overcome. It is a sacred expression of love; a sacred sorrow.”

The St. Peter’s ministry for bereaved parents will meet on Thursday, September 17 at 1:30 in the Conference Room.

All parents who have had the misfortune to lose a child are welcome to attend this group and it is not necessary to be a member of St. Peter’s. Those who attend find it helpful to be with others who truly understand the grief journey.

Esther Circle

We pray that you had a good, if busy, summer. Now we look forward to pleasant fall weather on the Cape and (hopefully) less traffic and road construction.

Esther Circle will begin preparations for the Cranberry Fair. Jewelry pieces and knitted items will be gratefully accepted now. Dates and times for sorting will be in the TWASP and posted on the bulletin board. The jewelry tables are always busy at the fair!

Wool sweaters are needed for making mittens, and they are becoming harder to find as many wearers prefer synthetic yarns. Hats, mittens, and socks are popular at the knitting table.

For any questions concerning jewelry, please contact Lynn Hatch, and for questions concerning knitted items, please see Marianne O’Boyle.

We plan to meet for lunch on Tuesday, September 8.

PSALM

People Sharing and Loving More

The PSALM [ladies] Group will resume meetings on Thursday, September 24th at 2 p.m. Please join us, all are welcome.

Please mark your calendars for upcoming PSALM meetings and activities:

October 22 2pm – Business

November 12** 2pm Business

**date change

November 21 – THE CRANBERRY FAIR

The PSALM members have begun preparation for our annual Cranberry Fair on November 21st. Crafts, knitted items, gift items, homemade jams, jellies, pickles and your attic treasures are always in demand. Your donations will be most appreciated. Should you have questions please contact Karen Beggs, Claudia Bellis, Elaine Davis, Lois Thomas or Jane Wordsworth. Proceeds benefit local homeless students.



Next PSALM Meetings:

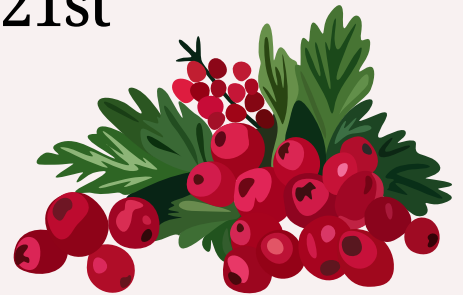
September 24th at 2 pm

October 22nd at 2 pm

November 12th at 2 pm

The Cranberry Fair

November 21st



We are women . . . hear us R O A R!!!

Our Mission: Outreach to
women and children in need.

Nonagerian Brunch

After worship on Sunday, June 28th, we celebrated those who have achieved the milestone of 90-years young (or more)! A wonderful luncheon was served, topped off by delicious cake. We give God great thanks for those who have enriched our lives and ministry over many decades. Not everyone was in the sanctuary (or at church) for the photo, so we have included some candid shots and ones Pastor was able to catch on home visit.





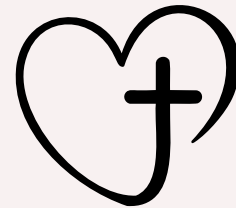
School Supplies Collection



The school supply collection to benefit the Homeless Prevention Council's annual "Backpack To School" program sponsored by the PSALM and Esther Circle groups was a huge success! Together we collected 17 backpacks and hundreds of back to school basics including notebooks, markers, crayons, pencils, highlighters, etc. We also provided \$435 in donations so additional items may be purchased by HPC to fill the backpacks. In 2025, 485 children from Harwich to Provincetown benefitted. Thank you for your support!

In memoriam: Paul Bongfeldt

Juliet Bongfeldt shared this word of thanksgiving with the community at St. Peters



Heartfelt thanks to all St Peter's members who expressed condolences, sent cards, attended the commemoration service, and gave hugs as my family and I experienced the sorrow of Paul's death. It's difficult to thank everyone personally, but special thanks to Pr. Gilbert's leadership and meaningful sermon, choir members, Jane, Karen, and others who planned and served the lunch, those who brought food and provided transportation during his last days, and Lynn's help with the committal. It is a blessing to be part of a community of faith, prayer, and service, sharing God's peace and living in the sure hope of resurrection.

Juliet

Memorial Garden

Fallen angel in the garden! Our angel statue was precariously perched on top of the rock at the entrance to the scattering garden. Though we tried securing her with outdoor Velcro, alas, after one of the summer storms, she fell and broke her wing. She is now repaired, happy, and safe on the ground in front of the rock.

Please note that as of September 1, 2026, **the fee for the scattering garden has increased from \$400 to \$500** due to the rising cost of the brass nameplates.

Applications for the Columbarium & Scattering Garden are available in the Narthex.

If you would like to help with decision-making and maintenance of the Memorial Garden, please consider joining us. We do not do a lot of “manual” labor anymore (maybe some planting and light weeding); however, your input would be a great asset to our committee. We communicate mostly via email. Just reach out, and I will add you to our committee.



Questions/thoughts?

Contact Lynn Hatch

email: **Lchatch1@comcast.net**

cell phone: **732-236-8114**

St. Peter's in the Community

St. Peter's oldest member, John Zippo, 102, was honored as the Grand Marshal in Chatham's Fourth of July Parade this year.



As of August, the "Altar Kneelers" task force has had a very slow start. Information is being gathered and ideas are being discussed . . . stay tuned! Meanwhile, we encourage all those who wish to kneel comfortably for Communion at the altar rail to bring a pillow from the basket at the entry to the Sanctuary.

Worship and Music

UPDATE

Fellowship



“They met constantly to hear the Apostles teach and to share the common life, to break bread and to pray.” - Acts 2:42

Fellowship has several core meanings - companionship, mutual connections, sharing friendship, and, when faith based, providing support and encouragement.

Is this how you envision St. Peter's after worship on Sundays? Well, we need some help with the breaking of bread part.

Can you . . .

- Measure water and coffee in a pot and plug it in?
- Pour cold drinks?
- Put cookies on a plate?
- Set out plates and napkins?
- Buy something yummy OR bake ahead to supply the freezer?
- Clean up? (dishes in DW and wash coffee pot)

If you have any of these skills, you can do it!

It's not hard work, but it does take hands (and not always the same ones).

If you don't want to do it alone, we will find you a partner.

If you can do any of the above, we need your contribution.

“And never forget to show kindness and to share what you have with others - for with such sacrifices, God is pleased.” - Hebrews 13:16

Let us know how you will help!

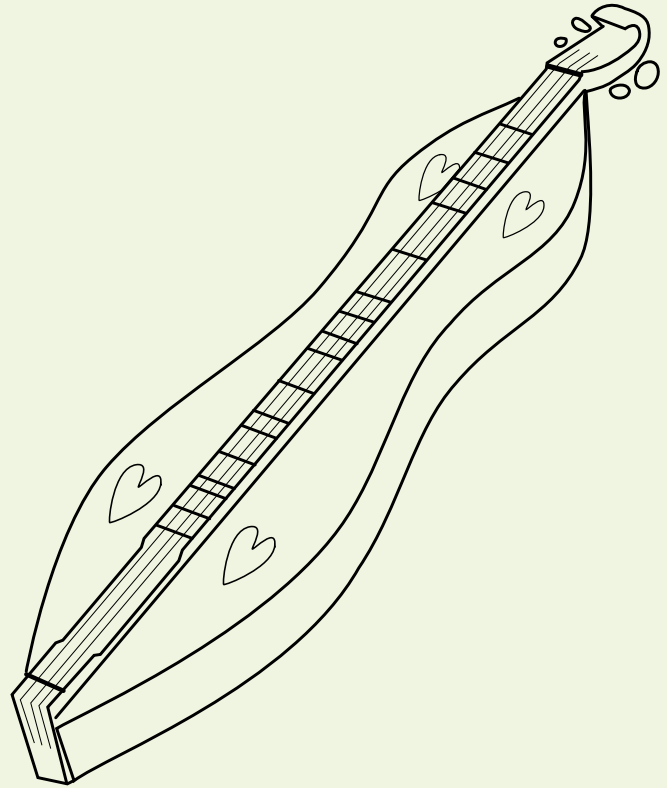
With gratitude,
Lynn Archambault, Karen Beggs,
Jetty Sousa Lampson

Dulcimer Fellowship

The Dulcimer fellowship group continues to grow! We met monthly over the summer and welcomed some new players as well as some seasonal Cape Codders. In August, we had a dozen players and made beautiful music together.

We also experimented with having zoom-based virtual “practice sessions” between the monthly gatherings of the dulcimer fellowship. Both were well attended and well received. While we can’t “play together” virtually, we can still “be together” and work on the technical aspects of playing dulcimer. It will also be a great way to stay connected with those who can’t come regularly in person because they live far away.

In September, we will meet once on September 13th at St. Peter’s on the lower level from 3-4:30.



Because the Pattisons will be traveling at the end of September and early October we will wait until October to resume the virtual practice sessions. New players, and the dulcimer curious are always welcome. We have loaner dulcimers for you to play and borrow (thanks to the Anderson Bequest.)

A handwritten signature, likely of the author, consisting of the letters 'M' and 'J' in a stylized, cursive font.

Financial Corner

Treasurer Suzanne Bassett shares this update on the finances of the congregation.

At the Annual Meeting, the Congregation approved a Spending Plan with a projected shortfall of \$53,336.94. Here is the status to date.

Actual Shortfall:

July -12,898.46 YTD -21,592.03



Women's Bible Study

Please join us for the Women's Bible Study on Saturday, September 5th. We meet in the Luther Room at 10 am.

We gather for learning in community and will focus on the Gospel passage for Sunday, September 6th.

St. Peter's Sojourners

We continue to invite new walkers to join us weekly on Tuesday mornings. This picture is from a recent walk at Wing Island in Brewster, followed by breakfast at the Kitchen Cafe.

The Sojourners walk at a different location on the Cape each week, and we are always open to a new trail we have not tried before, perhaps it might be your favorite. All details are provided in the weekly email, sent a day or two in advance with info on where the walks will be.

We meet at the church parking lot at 8:10 a.m. for carpooling, or at the trailhead at 8:30 a.m. Directions to the start of the walk are always included.



After the walk, we go for breakfast (optional) at a local restaurant. We try to walk year-round. In the winter months we start 30 minutes later.

Email, text or call Lynn Hatch to join.
Lchatch1@comcast.net or **732-236-8114**

Staff Updates

We are delighted to introduce our new Ministry Administrator: Tiff DeBarros! A Cape Cod native, Tiff comes to us with a background in retail telecommunications management and pharmacy tech. Her commitment to treating everyone with respect, compassion, and kindness exemplifies the mission of St. Peter's. She is in the office Tues, Weds, and Thurs from 10-5: stop by and say hi!



Birthdays & Anniversaries September

1	Nancy Cunningham	19	Elaine Davis
1	Carol Vrlik	19	Linda Merriam
2	Tom Cunningham	20	Kayleigh Sontag
2	Jayne Padgett	22	Pat Anderson
4	Connie Hackbarth	22	Russ Peterson
6	Jane Wordsworth	22	Nancy & Tom Cunningham
9	Cheryl & Rolf Nixon	23	John Ritz
10	Trish Crocker	23	Ben Rounseville
10	Natalie Timme	23	James Sandison
15	Nick Copoulos	26	Svea & Russ Peterson
17	Karen & Charlie Beggs	27	Al Stello
		28	Ken Thomas



**September
2026**

**Office Hours
T, W, Th 10a - 1pm**

**LR - Luther Room
N - Narthex
PL - Parking Lot
S - Sanctuary**

**CONF - Conference Room
CR - Classroom
FH - Fellowship Hall
FP - Food Pantry**

Room Guide

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8:10a Sojourners PL 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 130p Music Search Team CONF 2p Broad Reach Grief Group LR 3:30p Loaves & Fishes FP 4p ESL Class, Mark Classroom	2 12:30p Loaves & Fishes FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH	3 6:30p Chatham Chorale S	4 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fishes FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 1:30p Prayer Shawl Ministry LR	5 10a Women's Bible Study LR 4p SMMCWorship S
6 9:30a SPLC Worship S	7 Church office closed 1230p Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fishes FP	8 8:10a Sojourners PL 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 12:30p Easter Circle LR 130p Music Search Team CONF 3:30p Loaves & Fishes FP 4p ESL Class, Mark CR 5p NAMI Meeting LR 6:30p Chatham Chorale S	9 12:30p Loaves & Fishes FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH 4p Y.O.M Board Meeting LR 5p Broadreach Grief Group LR	10 10a Pastoral Care CONF 1p Finance, CONF 2 Broadreach Ice Cream Event PL 6:30p - Chatham Chorale S	11 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fishes FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH	12 4p SMMCWorship S
13 9:30a SPLC Worship S	14 Church office closed 1230p Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fishes FP 1:30p JustPeace CONF	15 8:10a Sojourners PL 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 130p Music Search Team CR 2p Broad Reach Grief Group LR 3:30p Loaves & Fishes FP 4p ESL Class, Mark CR	16 12:30p Loaves & Fishes FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH 6p - Council Meeting Mark CR	17 1:30p Sacred Sorrow LR 5p PSALM Offsite 5:45p Chatham Chorale S	18 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fishes FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 1:30p Prayer Shawl Ministry LR	19 12p Vined Lodge, Mark CR 4p SMMCWorship S
20 Home Communion Sunday 9:30a SPLC Worship S	21 Church office closed 1230p Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fishes FP 4:30p SPLC & Faith Family 5:45p Chatham Chorale S	22 8:10a Sojourners PL 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 130p Music Search Team CR 3:30p Loaves & Fishes FP 4p ESL Class, Mark CR	23 12:30p Loaves & Fishes FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH 5p Broadreach Grief Group LR	24 900a Parkinsons' Group FH 2p PSALM LR 5:45p Chatham Chorale S	25 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fishes FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH	26 9a Standish Woods Mtg. FH 4p SMMCWorship S
27 9:30a SPLC Worship S	28 Church office closed 1230p Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fishes FP 5:45p Chatham Chorale S	29 8:10a Sojourners PL 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 3:30p Loaves & Fishes FP 4p ESL Class, Mark CR	30 12:30p Loaves & Fishes FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH			