

What's Happening: December 1, 2024

The First Sunday of Advent

Parishioners in need of Prayer: Molly S., Anida B., Lorna J., Joanne C., Carolyn B., Ernest L., Pat W., Sam M., Yhosila N., Michael M., Cindy L., Bryan M., Jim & Linda P., Peggy Z., Jo O.

Homebound Parishioners: Sheena J., Doug B., and Jane N.

Parishioners' Friends and Family: Neal, Raymond (Liz Crosby); Maryellen (Bob Brown); Craig, Don (Ann Bish); Azri & Barb, Stan & Deloris (Jim & Nickie Sary); Vitalia (Carolyn Beredo); Laura (Dennis McCready); Lee (John Keller); John (David Nash); Marilou (Sara Ferry); Samantha (Sam Morgan); John & Mary (Julie Steigerwald); Brynn, Ellie (Linda Purdy); Virginia (Brenda Pongracz); Christian (Ann Wright); Grace (Cheshier Family); Tristan (Jessica Philpott, Luke & Mark Sferra); Bonnie, Gary (Emily Malquest); Leslie, Alyssa, Gerry, Nacine, Paul (Joanne Hull); David (Beth O'Rourke); Dan (Cindy Lemmerman); Lee (Tom & Sue Andrews); Weston (John Neumann); Elaine (Patti Dobro); Sue, Michael (Amanda Chambers); Kristen (Alison LaRosa); Carol (Monica Jochum); Carla, John (Michelle Killin-Keith); the Capece family (Kristen Gardner); Sherry (Mark Lekan); Elizabeth (Jan McDonough); Lori (Kathy Woolner); Chip (the Jochum family); Bonnie (Carol Childs); Terri, Don (Marci Rich); Steven (Anida Balmer); Vyrona (Jeff Tennant); Dianna (Deb Csikos-Vandrasik)



GENEROSITY TEAM
Outreach Partner



December Outreach Focus of the Month: St. Peter's Child Care Center

The outreach focus for the month of December is our very own St. Peter's Child Care Center.

This non-profit child care center provides high-quality child care to a diverse population. We have been a part of the community since 1983, and serve families from Lakewood, Cleveland, Mentor, Avon Lake, Westlake, Fairview Park, and Rocky River.

We currently have 33 families (41 children) at the Center. Our school-age program, held at Horace Mann Elementary, has 25 families (32 children). Our staff is made up of fifteen full-time and two part-time employees. Three of our staff have been with us for 22 and 23 years, while others have recently celebrated anywhere between one and ten years of employment with us. We provide a safe, nurturing environment for the children, and we welcome children of all abilities.

The Child Care Center and the School-Age Program at Horace Mann Elementary have maintained a Gold Rating — the highest rating attainable — through the Step Up to Quality program. The Center has also maintained a contract with Invest in Children as a Universal PreK Program (UPK). The UPK Program makes high-quality early care and education accessible to families by providing funding to enhance the quality, as well as scholarship assistance to low- and moderate-income families. Both the Step Up to Quality and UPK Programs require the Center to operate at higher standards than a program that is just licensed by the Ohio Department of Children and Youth. We have also maintained the designation of Ohio Healthy Program for the past ten years. Ohio Healthy Programs focus on creating healthy habits, menus, policies, and family engagement to address childhood obesity. Each of these different programs do provide a small amount of financial incentive; however, as a non-profit childcare center, we consistently seek out opportunities to fund our program in order to provide a worthy wage for our staff. In recent years, we have been fortunate to utilize some government funds through ARPA and a series of available grants; unfortunately, however, these funds have been exhausted.

In keeping with the service ministry that is a part of the St. Peter's culture, the Center is involved in several service projects. The children at the Center participate in monthly outreach projects aimed at improving their community. Some of the recipients of their efforts include Providence House, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, the Pajama Program, and the Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland.

We thank you for the support you have given us over the years, and we appreciate you thinking of us once again. Your generous donations by way of your loose-plate offerings will be used to purchase and install permanent shades for the playground area as well as repair the poured rubber surface in this area.

— Courtney Nerad
Executive Director



Sleepout for the Homeless Surpasses Goal!

“Let them go in peace to love and serve our Lord.”

That is exactly what our youth did this past weekend, when they slept outdoors to raise awareness — and money — for the unsheltered. Their efforts surpassed our goal of \$3,000 in funds raised for local homeless shelters. Well done, and God bless!

St. Cecilia Guild Christmas Luncheon Reservations Due Dec. 2



Monday, December 2 is the deadline to make your reservations for the St. Cecilia Guild Annual Christmas Luncheon, which will be held at the Clifton Club on **Wednesday, December 11, beginning at noon. The festivities will start with a cash bar, followed by lunch at 12:30 p.m.** The Clifton Club is located at 17884 Lake Road in Lakewood. The menu includes chicken and asparagus crêpes, seasonal vegetables, and rolls; cheesecake will be served for dessert. Longtime Guild member Joanne Calkins is our hostess. **To reserve a lunch, please send a check for \$35, made out to Lorna Jordan, by the December 2 deadline and**

mail it to her at 1507 Westford Circle, #105, Westlake, Ohio, 44145. Contact Lorna with any questions by calling or texting 216-647-3774.

Help Spread Christmas Cheer to Children at St. Luke's!



We are once again ready to spread the Spirit of Christmas by partnering with St. Luke's to provide children from 8- to 12-years-old (girls or boys) with one unexpected Christmas present – something special, *NOT* everyday clothing or needed items!

Please drop off your gift at the back of the church **before December 8**. Please do not wrap the gift. Distribution of gifts will be **on Monday, December 16, at St. Luke's**.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the distribution for this wonderful outreach event, please see one of the representatives from our generosity team at the back of the church **after the services on Sunday, November 24, December 1, or December 8 to sign up**.

Time slots for volunteering are as listed below:

10 a.m. — 12 p.m. — 6 volunteers needed 12 p.m. — 2 p.m. — 6 volunteers needed
2 p.m. — 4 p.m. — 6 volunteers needed 4 p.m. — 6 p.m. — 6 volunteers needed

Thank you!



HELP COMMUNITY MEAL CONTINUE A CHRISTMAS TRADITION WHEN DINNER IS SERVED ON DEC. 10

Jan Babbit and Lesley Demagall hope to continue their Christmas tradition of presenting dinner guests with a small gift at the December dinner, and ask that you consider donating something appropriate for winter: a gender-neutral knit cap, hat, or scarf; or a pair of one-size-fits-all warm socks or gloves. If you would like to contribute any of these new items, please place your gift in the specially-marked bin located inside the parking-lot entrance

door by **Sunday, December 8**. And if you've already started your Christmas baking, we welcome a dozen or so of your cookies for dessert. **These can be dropped off in the Undercroft kitchen before 2 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10. Doors open for Community Meal at 5:30 p.m., and dinner will be served at 6 p.m.** Thanks for any way in which you can join in this ministry.

Support Next Summer's Mission Trip to Montana by Purchasing Poinsettias to Grace Your Home for Christmas — Last Day to Order is Nov. 30



Michelle Killin-Keith reports that the Children & Youth Ministry is running “a real quick through-the-end-of-the-month” Poinsettia Sale to help fund their summer mission trip to Montana.

“Please consider ordering your Christmas plants today,” says Michelle. “It is easy, and pick-up will be at church on Sunday, December 15. For the sake of time, all sales will go under my name but all the funds will go into our mission-trip account. More details to come.”

The sale is going on now, and will run through the end of November.

From Dean's Greenhouse:

“We are selling quality products with a twist. These beautiful poinsettias are a huge hit for the season! The fundraising dollars earned from this sale will directly benefit St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

ONLINE SHOPPING

Allows you to browse through all of the colors and sizes being offered.

Your Youth has a unique shopping cart link. Orders placed using the link below are credited directly to St. Peter's

Episcopal Church's Youth Michelle Killin-Keith.

Michelle Killin-Keith's unique shopping link: <https://app.fundraiseit.org/shop.php?code=2613ED> Shop Now

When can I shop? The online sale for St. Peter's Episcopal Church is from 12:01 a.m. on 11/19/2024 until 11:59 p.m. on 12/01/2024.

Who benefits from my purchase? Money from this fundraiser goes to support St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

Thank you for helping St. Peter's Episcopal Church reach its goal!

Interested in knowing if orders have been placed for Michelle Killin-Keith?

1. Go to www.fundraiseit.org
2. Click Check My Child's Sales link in the For Families box
3. Enter your Youth's unique web sale code (2613ED) and last name
4. View all of the orders placed using your Youth's provided link



SECOND SUNDAYS ON ZOOM!

Join us for VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR at 11:15 a.m.

On the second Sunday of each month, you are invited to catch up with friends at **Virtual Coffee Hour**. December's gathering takes place on **Sunday, December 8, at 11:15 a.m.** Join us and enjoy the company of St. Peter's online community! Please call Kathy Woolner at **440-503-6111** with any questions. Next month's Zoom gathering will be

Sunday, January 12, 2025, at 11:15 a.m.

Mark your calendars for virtual Fellowships on the second Sunday of each month. We look forward to seeing you on Zoom! For ease in attending, add this link to your calendar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82813898119?pwd=VU5QMjl0UmJkdTBudmJQRVphNTRVUT09>

Meeting ID: 828 1389 8119

Passcode: 18001



Saint Nicholas Day Celebration Sunday, December 8

Join us at **Sunday School on December 8** for a memorable holiday story about a unique Christian Bishop, read by Mr. John Rich. Enjoy some refreshments and crafts, and learn about Nicholas and the good deeds he did obeying Jesus, and helping the poor, the sick, and the suffering.



GENEROSITY TEAM

Fellowship: Bowling

Join in the Fun! Bowl with us on Monday, December 9

The next session of St. Peter's Non-Competitive Bowling League takes place on **Monday, December 9, at 6:30 p.m.** at Fairview Lanes in Fairview Park, Ohio. For more information, please contact Dennis McCready (440-773-76108/gotowhole@gmail.com) or Tucker Handley (985-228-3198/thandley01@yahoo.com). The league meets for the last time this year on Monday, December 23. For dates in 2025, please see the December issue of the *Fisherman's Net*.

Brass Polishing



Mark your calendars for **Saturday, December 14, at 9 a.m.** for brass polishing as we prepare for the birth of our Lord. We gather in the kitchen, shine up our brass, and enjoy fellowship with each other. An amazing group of parishioners in this ministry gets our brass sparkling in under two hours! Please join us — the more the merrier! If you have any questions, please reach out to Amanda Chambers amanda60chambers@gmail.com.



Strike Up the Band!

Fletcher, a member of our Youth Group and a student at Gilles Sweet Elementary, will be playing trumpet with his fifth-grade class in his first-ever band concert on **Saturday, December 14, beginning at noon.** The concert takes place at Fairview High School Auditorium, located at 4507 West 213th Street in Fairview Park. Fletcher's group will be on stage first, and their performance lasts approximately fifteen minutes.

The concert is free and open to the public, but optional donations of non-perishable foods will be accepted at the door in lieu of a ticket price.

Christmas 2024 Memorial Flowers



If you would like to contribute to the Christmas Flower Fund for decorating the church this year, please complete the form found here or at the rear of the church. **The requested donation is \$25 or more.** Please make your check payable to St. Peter's Episcopal Church with a notation that this check is for the Christmas Flower Fund. You can place the form in the alms basin, drop it off at the office, or mail it to the church. Please be sure to attach the form with your check. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity. **The deadline is Sunday, December 15.**

Your Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Flowers in Memory Of: _____



Episcopal Liturgical Kalendars Now Available

A limited number of Episcopal Liturgical Kalendars are now available for purchase at \$5 each. You are welcome to buy one on Sundays — they can be found at the back of the church — or stop by the office Monday through Thursday, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. For more information, call 216-226-1772 or send an email to office@stpeterslakewood.org.



It would help Janine Finucane in the finance office considerably if everyone would please write in the memo line of their checks whether their offerings should be applied to “Prepaid 2025 Pledges,” or if they should go toward 2024 Pledges. Thank you!



On Sundays at 9:09 a.m. in the Undercroft, Father Mike leads the Adult Forum, a progressive study of the Bible. This class is also taught on **Wednesdays at 11 a.m.** in the upstairs office lounge, following the 10 a.m. Eucharist with prayers for healing, in the Oratory. Another opportunity to study the Bible takes place on **Fridays at 8 a.m.** at Joe’s Deli in Rocky River. For information about the latter group, contact Jim Calhoun at jlciv401@gmail.com.

For pastoral emergencies, please contact The Rev. Mike Lager at 479-221-4030 or via email at rector@stpeterslakewood.org. If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the office at office@stpeterslakewood.org.