

The Evangel

St. Peter's First Community Church

June 2025

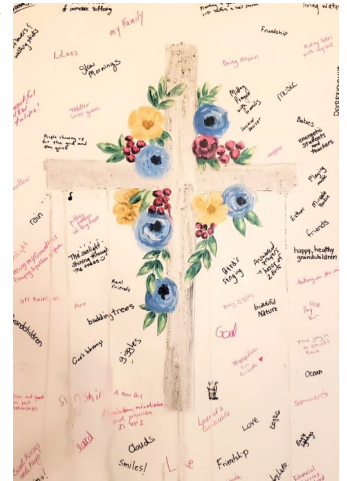
The purpose of St. Peter's First Community Church is to **GLORIFY** God, **BUILD** up the body of Christ, and **REACH** out to those in our community and world to help them become followers of Christ.

A Reflection from Megan Condry:

*In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
1 Peter 1:3*

We are nearing the end of our Eastertide journey. It's hard to believe it's been over 40 days since Easter. Eastertide has felt especially beautiful this year. We weren't very far into Lent when I started sensing God's invitation to celebrate Eastertide. This year felt like an important time to enter into a season of celebration, renewal, and resurrection joy. Looking for where God is at work, naming those things, and choosing gratitude really mattered. Things in and around us can get loud. The beauty of God's attentive and active work in the world and in our lives can get overshadowed so quickly. Something happens when we pause, enter a space with God, and invite him to open our eyes to see where he is at work. We begin to see and experience more of God. We have a greater awareness of beauty and joy that can be found even in the hardest season.

There's a beautiful piece of art hanging in the sanctuary when you enter. Linger a little longer after you are greeted and receive a bulletin next time! On Easter in 2019, our friend, Tommi Tucker, painted the cross adorned with some beautiful flowers. A picture of resurrection. A picture of the God who takes what was dead and breathes new life. Throughout Eastertide that year, we shared where we saw resurrection by writing those God sightings on the painting. We collectively created this piece of art in response to the good news of Christ's resurrection. I've read the words written in pink and black letters in various handwriting over and over again. Every time I read them, I am reminded of the God who is faithful, the God who is working resurrection in our lives and our stories, and I smile. I find myself whispering, "Thank you, Jesus!"



I continue to be in awe of God's timing, provision, and faithfulness. The Easter after creating that piece of art was a very different one. We were worshipping from home and just learning how to connect with folks through Zoom. Collecting Eastertide beauty in 2019 was certainly preparation for what was to come. We shared Eastertide beauty photos and stories throughout Eastertide of 2020. We needed to share those little glimmers of God's beauty, care, and love right in the middle of the hard.

Resurrection hope is something to cling to, not just in Eastertide, but every day. Collecting Eastertide beauty on colorful flowers has opened us to seeing more of God. I hope that the more you've journeyed through this season, the more you see the beauty of God's presence in the moments of your life. Sometimes they are so evident you can't miss it - the rainbow filling the sky, the flower opening up, the laughter of a child, the encouraging text at just the right moment, the song that came on the radio with the words your heart needed to hear, or the peace that overcomes you in the middle of a stressful meeting. While at the grocery store the other day, I was part of helping a gentleman find his lost phone, and everything about it felt like one of those God moments. As I drove home from the store, I smiled and felt a tear falling down my face. God's perfect timing. God met me through that experience and reminded me of how deeply, intricately, and intentionally he is involved in our lives. The words to the song Steadfast that we've sung in church came to mind.

Let's continue to live as Easter people, not just in Eastertide but every day. Let's continue to collect and share together our experiences of God's work in our lives. As we do so, we get a glimpse of the God who is always faithful and our faith is strengthened. Enjoy looking at the Eastertide flower artwork that will be displayed soon and celebrate God's resurrection power at work. Christ is indeed our living hope.

ST. PETER'S FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH

phone: 260.356.7728

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Facebook: StPetersFirstCommunityChurch

JOIN US for worship Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in person
or online at youtube.com/@spfcc

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About St. Peter's First

Our Mission

St. Peter's First Community Church is a covenant community committed to glorifying God by building up the body of Christ and helping others in our world and neighborhood become followers of Jesus.

Our Covenant

We covenant with one another to seek God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and to obey His Word, and to witness the good news of Jesus Christ to the world around us. This we do through the power of the Holy Spirit who has been given to us by the Father to glorify the Son, looking forward toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.

"He brought me out into a spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted in me." Psalm 18:19

June 2025 CALENDAR

Journey with St. Pete's!

1st:	9:30 a.m.	Graduation Recognition Sunday
8th:	11:00 a.m.	Party at the Park (Elmwood Park)
10th:		SeniorPak
	5:30 p.m.	Council Meeting
13th:	6:00 p.m.	Kids' Summer Movie Night
23rd:	5:30 p.m.	New Life Meal Ministry
	6:15 p.m.	Community Song Time
24th:		SeniorPak
28th:		Mom's Group

FOR REFLECTION:

"Be joyful in hope, patient in tribulation, constant in prayer."
Romans 12:12



How can you encourage others to be joyful in their hope? What are you hoping for in this season of life? Can you recall a time when being patient during hardship brought growth or peace? In what ways has prayer strengthened or sustained you during difficult times? How can you practice this verse in your life?

Birthdays

06/01, John Meyer
06/02, Jane Frierhood
06/05, Kennedy Baker
06/07, Marilyn Nevitt
06/08, Dottie McCurley
06/09, Barb Baker
06/11, Marcia Herzog
Doyle Krieg
06/13, Kelly Halverstadt
06/14, Ken McCurley
06/16, Jim Frierhood
06/17, Bobby Diener
06/21, Kirk Baker
Danielle Shafer
06/23, Jeannie Myers
06/24, Ann Ambler
Gracie Zartman
06/25, Penelope Hess
06/27, Jessie Hess
Mike Ward

Anniversaries

06/01, Scott & Lisa Harter
Zen & Jessie Hess
06/04, Doyle & Kathy Krieg
06/08, Josh & Susanne Watson
06/15, Jeff & Connie Baumgardner
06/24, Adam & Erica Myers
06/27, Tom & Bonnie Hosler
David & Hannah Shoue

