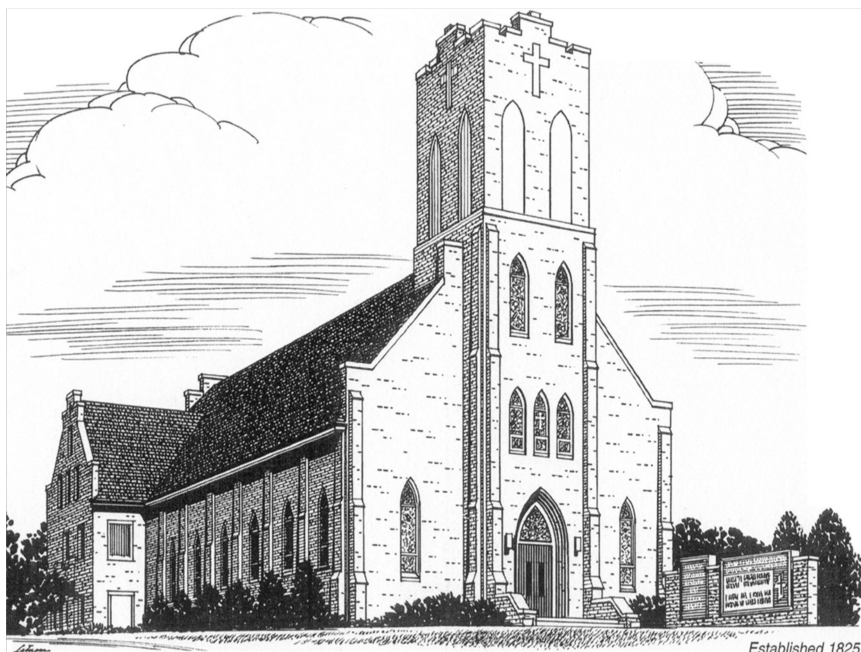


THE SUNDAY SPIRIT

Ninth Sunday after Trinity
August 17, 2025



ST. PETER'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

✠ CONOVER, NC ✠

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

The Steward's Shrewdness Sanctified

"The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness" (Luke 16:1–9). The steward's shrewdness is praiseworthy for two reasons. First, he knew the master would be merciful. He trusted that the master would honor the debts he forgave in the master's name. In the same way, though we have squandered our heavenly Father's possessions in selfishness and sin, Jesus is the Steward who has canceled our debt, knowing that His forgiveness will be honored by the Father because of the holy cross. Secondly, the steward was shrewd in using oil and wheat to provide for his earthly welfare. So also do these earthly elements aid us when pressed into heavenly use in the anointing of baptism and the wheat of the Lord's Supper. Those who have the Sacraments will have an eternal home when their earthly home fails. These provide us aid in times of temptation (1 Cor. 10:6–13). For the Lord is our strength and a shield to all who trust in Him (2 Sam. 22:26–34).

Welcome to St. Peter's! We are glad you are here! We ask everyone to fill out an "attendance card" and place it in the offering plate later in the service. We welcome our first-time guests and visitors and request that you fill out the back side of the attendance card as well. Guests and visitors please take a "welcome" bag from our table out front.

Holy Communion Today - 8:15 am, 10:45 am and 4:30 pm

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper, where the risen Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine, offering His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. We welcome to commune all baptized Christians who:

- Believe in Jesus Christ as their only Lord and Savior
- Trust they receive Christ's body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of sins
- Acknowledge their sinfulness and desire to live a new life in Christ

As this Sacrament is a public confession of our shared faith, we ask visitors to speak with a pastor or an elder before communing. This ensures all who commune receive this gift as a blessing rather than to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). We are happy to answer any questions you might have about the Lord's Supper.

- Pastor Frank, Pastor Eric, and the Board of Elders

Need Prayer? Those desiring personal prayer will find an elder stationed in the prayer room following communion today. You may also leave prayer requests there for them to pray over.

Today's radio broadcast is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Doris Winebarger by Dennis Winebarger (Listen on WAIZ 630 AM or 105.9 FM during our 8:15 am service)

Blessing of the Backpacks During both services, students will be invited to come up to receive a backpack tag and a blessing bag kit. School teachers, faculty and administrators are asked to come forward for a blessing too. We will lift them up in prayer for a wonderful 2025-26 school year.

Children's Bulletins and Devotional Books for youth and adults are available in the narthex and by both side entrance doors.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

***Babies - Kindergarten** - Room #1 Education Building- Brenda Fulbright
Alice Layne

***K-2nd Grade** - Room #8 Education Building - Emily Schwandt

***3rd - 6th Grades** - Room #7 Education Building - Terry Sigmon

***Middle & High Schoolers** - Room #4 Education Building - John Adams

***Adults of All Ages** - Education Building, Room #2 - A study on "Esther"
by Danielle Brown with Kim Gantt ,Kevin Gantt & Kim Rector.

***Ladies Sunday School Class** - Grover Herman Room Education
Building, with Beth Lail. They are studying "The Book of Acts."

***Adults - Multi-Purpose Room Class** - They are studying "The Cross"
with Christal Sigmon

***Pastor's Class - Parish Hall - Genesis Bible Study** - "The Promise
Land" with Pastor Eric and Pastor Frank

PRAYERS

Church Members in Need of prayer Carol Abbott, Carol Alley, Terry Bolick, Donald Bowman, David Duncan, Betty Eckard, Janet Good, Mary Ruth Hefner, Sandra Jenkins, Seth Paschal, Alan Pruitt, Kim Rector, Mickey Stewart, and Marshall Wray

Pray for Our Homebound Members

Those at Home: Carol Abbott, Rosella Bollinger, Polly Bowman, Shirley Dellinger, Joe Eckard, Annette Hollar, Kathleen Houston, Patricia Isenhour, Bobby Little, Hazel Moser, Seth Paschal, Jeanette Reese, Reva Reinhardt, Bonnie Sigmon, Eugene Sigmon, Richard Sigmon, Ernest & Carol Starnes, Tommy & Mickey Stewart, John Van Horne, Dorothy Willis, Mary Ann Winebarger

Abernathy Center: Gracie Bolick, Gwendolyn Allen

Brookdale: Blanche Hefner

Kingston Manor: Barbara White

Catawba Valley Living: Alberta Winebarger

Trinity Village: Margaret Laws, Donald Bowman

Friends Needing Prayer

- Debbie Hefner (wife of Randy Hefner)
- Tommy & Ann McDonald (cousins of Sherry Bumgarner)
- Charlie Speaks (friend of Sherry Bumgarner)
- Madison White (granddaughter of Carol Alley)
- Tommy London (father of former member)
- Carolyn Reitzel (friend of Ron & Brenda Hefner)
- Possum & Phyllis Mathews (friends of Bob & Gaye Marlowe)
- Todd Starnes* (son of Ernest & Carol Starnes)
- James Lofton* (brother-in-law of Ruby Matthews)

*(*names are listed for 4 weeks and can be renewed by calling the office*)*

Expectant Mothers

Ashlyn Martin - due Sept. 13 (daughter-in-law of Mike & Angie Martin)

Katelynn Ruff - due Oct. 27 (granddaughter of Nelson & Selena Gurganious)

Christian Sympathy

- The Family of Kay Hatch (sister of Richard Hallman)

Birthdays This Week Amy Griffin (8/17); Kay Watts (8/18); Jan (Tony) Sigmon (8/19); Laura Frank (8/19); Josh Adams (8/20) Nathan Brittain (8/22); Karen Hoyle (8/23)

Anniversaries This Week Matt & Crystal Witherspoon (8/18); Perry & Dorothy Sigmon (8/18); Bradley & Kim Gantt (8/20); Randy & Kim Pennington (8/22)

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

St.

Peter's Camp Linn Haven Weekend - August 29-September 1 Forms to sign up for St. Peter's weekend are available in the narthex. Price per person - Ages 16 and up - \$120; Ages 12-15 - \$110; and Ages 2-11 - \$100. Please complete the form and return to the church office or give to Erin Sigmon. Checks payable to Camp Linn Haven. Deadline is Sunday, August 24.

New Church Pictorial Directory We are looking for a couple of people to head up a team to start looking into the process of doing a new pictorial directory here at St. Peter's, as it has 4 years since we did our last one. If you are interested in helping, please contact the church office.

All committee chair are requested to begin their budget requests for fiscal year 2026. If we start early we can allocate the funds that will best serve the congregation. If you have any questions, please call David Sigmon: 828-381-1883.

The 5-Year Planning Team will meet Monday, August 18th at 6:00 pm in the Education Building.

Former Pastor Celebrates 40th Anniversary in the Ministry : On September 11, 1985, Paul Birner was ordained into the ministry of the LCMS and installed as Associate Pastor at Anchorage Lutheran Church. Pastor Birner's 40th anniversary will be celebrated on September 7th at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Renton, Washington and on September 14 at Anchorage Lutheran. He served faithfully as pastor of St. Peter's for approximately 18 years. If you would like to remember Pastor Birner

YOU'RE INVITED



St. Peter's Bicentennial

as we celebrate 200 years
of God's faithfulness!

Schedule of Events

8:15 - History of the Lutheran Church in our area
with Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast

9:30 - Bicentennial Worship Service
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast

11:00 - History Walk in the Parish Hall

11:45 - Covered Dish Lunch in Spirit Center

Sunday

24

2025

August

Last Week - August 17, 2025

Worship Services Attendance

8:15 am 140 10:45 am 58

Sunday School Attendance

Adults 53 Youth 18

Offerings

General Fund - \$7,894.48 ; Sunday School \$ 28.26

***In order to meet the budget for 2025 that was approved by the congregation,
our weekly General Fund offerings must average \$11,184.22***

Dedicated Fund Offerings

Crocheting & Looming - \$100; Senior Youth Gathering - \$75; Radio Broadcast \$100;

Building Fund \$600; Building Fund - Audio/Visual - \$100

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMING WEEK

- Sun (17) 8:15 am Contemporary Service with Holy Communion and
 Blessing of the backpacks
 9:30 am Sunday School & Bible Studies
 10:45 am Traditional Service with Holy Communion and
 Blessing of the backpacks
 1:30 pm 200th Anniversary Team Meeting
 4:30 pm Homebound/Workers Communion Service
 4:30 pm GriefShare Support Group
 6:00 pm Church Council
- Mon. (18) 8:30 am Quilters
 6:00 pm 5-year Planning Team Meeting
 6:15 pm Girl Scouts
 6:30 pm Praise Band Practice
- Tues(19) **10:00 am Golden Agers - in Parish Hall**
 2:30 pm Staff Meeting
 6:30 pm Mission Team Meeting - in multi-purpose room
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- Wed. (20) 6:30 pm Basketball League
 6:30 pm Adult Choir
- Thurs. (21) **10:00 am Thursday Morning Bible Study with Kim Kaylor**
 - in Spirit Center THIS WEEK ONLY (change of location for
 this week only due to setup for 200th Anniversary
 Celebration events)
- Sat. (23) 7:30 am Men's Small Group Bible Study - *in multi-purpose room*
- Sun. (24) **Bicentennial Celebration Sunday**
 8:15 am History Presentation by Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast
 - in Sanctuary
 8:15 am Combined Youth Class - in Education Building
 9:30 am 200th Anniversary Celebration Service with
 Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast, guest preacher
 11:00 am History Walk of St. Peter's - in Parish Hall
 11:45 am Covered dish lunch - in Spirit Center
 4:30 pm GriefShare Support Group

***Bold = activities that don't happen on a typical week**

If you know of a member of the congregation who is sick, hospitalized, or has special needs, please contact the church office at 828-256-2970 or Pastor Frank or Pastor Eric

SERMON NOTES

"When Shrewdness Serves the Master"

Luke 16:1-13

1. Why is this parable challenging to interpret?
2. How would you naturally expect the master to respond to the manager's dishonesty?
3. How do you apply your creativity, wisdom, or shrewdness in everyday life? Do you direct these qualities more toward earthly or eternal purposes?
4. In what ways does your understanding of God's character influence the boldness with which you serve Him and others?

Rev. Peter Frank, Senior Pastor

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Rev. Eric Hauss, Assistant Pastor

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pastor_e@stpetersconover.org

Nancy Bruce, Administrative Asst

secretary@stpetersconover.org

Kim Kaylor, Family Ministry Director

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familyministry@stpetersconover.org

Rev. Jason & Emily Groth, Missionaries

lcms.org/Groth

Carolyn Paschal, Music Director

304-590-0504 (cell)

music@stpetersconover.org

Drew Stiles, Praise Band Leader

stilesdrew70@gmail.com

Church Office

Phone: 828-256-2970

Website

stpetersconover.org

Church WiFi

Stpeters1364

Church Address

6175 St Peters Church Rd, Conover NC 28613

Today's Servants

Altar Guild: Jeannie Deal, Julie Robinson

Praise Band: Drew Stiles, leader; Bradley Abernathy, Emily Allen, Thom Bumgarner, Tom Delgreco, Melody Frank, Susan Gantt, Brenda Hefner, Oz Hefner, Olivia Owens, Kim Rector, Emily Sherbino, Emma Spencer, Jeff Winebarger

Adult Choir: Charles Bumgarner, Sherry Bumgarner, Greg Eckard, Judy Eckard, Trudy Huffman, Carmen Lander, Scott Medlin, Carolyn Paschal, Emily Sherbino, Jan Sigmon, Drew Stiles, John Thomas.

Handbells: Betty Goble, Alice Layne, Carolyn Paschal, Cheryl Pennell, Cheryl Sigmon, Drew Stiles, Bill Totty.

Organist: Carolyn Paschal

Office: Bob Marlowe

Readers: 8:15 am Beth Lail 10:45 am Donna Sipe

Prayer Room: 8:15 am Kevin Gantt 10:45 am Richard Hallman

Greeters: 8:15 am Joy Lail 10:45 am Donna Sipe